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ATHENA, ORE., MAY 7, 1909

Editors and publishers of 370 daily, weekly and class publications in eastern Washington and Oregon, northern and central Idaho, western Montana, southeastern British Columbia and points in Alberta have been invited by the Spokane Press committee to meet in that city on May 8 to discuss plans for the formation of the Inland Empire Press Association. The purpose of the organization is to unite the press of the country to work for more substantial and greater development of all parts of the Inland Empire and to encourage the emigration of desirable settlers and influx of capital to assist in building up the country and develop its agricultural, industrial and commercial resources.

When you pull down the town in which is your home, your business, you are pulling down yourself, and when you build up your own town, you build up yourself and your neighbor. Try and banish from your mind the mistaken idea that good things are away off in some other locality. Give your town all the praise it can legitimately bear. It will certainly do you no harm, and will cost you nothing, and above all, patronize home institutions. Be a booster.—Bickleton News.

It seems that in taking beans Boston turns 16,000,000 quarts into 32,000,000 quarts, and the finished products is still admirably filling. The genius that can make two quart of beans materialize where there was but one quart has mastered a great point in dietary science and political economy.

The bishop who recently condemned the style of hats women are wearing this year may be credited with possessing a good deal of courage, but experience should have taught him that any masculine onslaught on feminine fashion in hats and dress avails nothing.

The Turkish soldiers appear to have been influenced not so much by a desire for a change of authority as a wish to take a chance on a new set of paymasters.

Just to think the new president has been in office over a month and nobody called a liar yet. How times have changed.

The man who makes the motion to adjourn the Sixty-first Congress should be noted as one of the heroes of the time.

AWFUL COST OF PEACE.
The British budget, which was presented to the House of Commons Thursday, is of proportions sufficient to cause gloomy forebodings for the future. The explanatory memorandum of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on revenue and expenses places the former for the fiscal year '09-10 at \$741,950,000 and the expenditures at \$820,700,000, thus showing a prospective deficit of nearly \$80,000,000. Old-age pensions and increased appropriations for the navy are mentioned as reasons for appearance of the deficit. To

make up the deficiency and avoid a further increase in the national debt, which has reached the staggering sum of \$3,770,806,545, it is proposed to increase the tax on sugar, tea and other necessities.

England has not yet reached a point in her career where the possibility of wiping out deficits and preventing an increase in the national debt by curtailing war preparation expenses has appealed to her. And yet more than one third of the total estimate for the year will be devoted to army and navy expenses. Sir Edward Grey, the British Foreign Minister, was recently credited with the statement that the powers of Europe were devoting to preparation for war half the total proceeds of taxation, and that the proportion which army and navy expenditures bear to their budgets has about doubled in a decade. When the French budget was reported, a short time ago, it was noted that six European powers were spending more than \$1,000,000,000 per year for army and navy, the British leading with something more than \$800,000,000, the Germans \$290,000,000 and the French \$250,000,000.

The United States has no war like neighbors who might suddenly decide to invade the country, but for all that we are so fearful of trouble that our army and navy expenditures are approaching close to \$300,000,000 per year. If the pension list is included, it appears that war and its results are costing the country about \$450,000,000 per year.

It will be a long time before this country will be troubled with old age pensions, or with an enormous war load per capita as Great Britain is now carrying, but, as the statistics show, we are rapidly drifting into the same channels of extravagance that are leading European nations to financial distress. Unless some steps are taken to check this awful cost of peace, we can determine with mathematical accuracy when it will become necessary either to go to war or go into bankruptcy.—Oregonian.

OUT OF THE GINGER JAR.
Even a legless man can run through a bank account.

It requires a skillful surgeon to set a bone, but anybody can set an egg.

When a girl falls in love with a loafer we usually find him the idle of her heart.

There is little expectation that the July and August sun will melt the ice treat.

The corn-field ought to take a high rank, because there are so many kernels in it.

It would not take a threshing machine very long to thrash out some men's ideas.

The auctioneer knocks down almost everything he touches, and yet nobody seems to mind it.

Pride is undesirable, and yet we are all agreed that rice is not likable unless it is all puffed up.

"By their fruits ye shall know them," but what about a tree with a dozen different varieties of grafts.

Talk about the farmers having no influence; they are stirring up the entire country right now.

Our neighbor's faults are magnified sevenfold, but as to our own shortcomings we can not see them with a microscope.

It is not best always to stay at home; an occasional change is good for every body. Even the kitchen fire goes out occasionally.

Every farmer can be his own weather prophet if he will keep his tools under the shed, and his stock in the stable during bad nights.

There are lots of people in the world who appear to have the brains of a mule. All they seem to be able to do is to eat, sleep and kick.

Farmer Jones was pleased as Punch when he heard his son was being taught fencing at college, but when he saw the small instruments used in the instruction, his pleasure gave way to disgust.

SOME EGG POSSIBILITIES.
There recently has come from the United States Department of Agriculture a bulletin telling all that seems to be worth knowing about eggs and the egg trade of the country. Mod-

estly situated on page 8 we find this paragraph:

"The flavor or odor of an egg may be noticeably influenced by the food of the hen. This has been demonstrated by feeding hens heavily on onion tops or garlic. So far as is known to the writer, no practical application has been made of this principle."

Enough said. It only remains for some enterprising poultry farmer to take the hint and start a thriving business in flavored eggs and variegated assortment of hen fruit that may serve fastidious palates in place of food that is not always easily obtainable. The idea involves the cultivating of hen's appetites to a considerable degree, but that ought to be an easy matter—as easy as to cultivate the human taste for olives, for instance.

Nobody will be likely to gain any great fortune through garlic or onion eggs, because garlic and onions are generally regarded as toothsome only when they are garlic and onions. Garlic is all right also in a salad, but the onion of commerce is relishable only when eaten in its original state, and is a deplorable failure as a second hand affair. But it wouldn't be so bad to have the young woman at the restaurant ask you whether you would have your eggs flavored with vanilla or lemon or just plain.

The possibilities involved must appeal to all without the necessity of going into minute details. Suffice it to say that eggs easily may afford the regular daily food supply if only there be enough diversity of effort to make them take the flavor of various articles of diet. There is no limit to egg consumption as there is with quail, for instance, it being regarded as impossible for a person to eat a quail a day for thirty days. There is also the possibility that hens might be taught the drink habit, so as to supply eggnog in original packages, but we leave it to the ingenious reader to multiply instances.—Walla Walla Bulletin.

TO SUE WHITMAN FOR TAXES

County Commissioners Vote \$300 to Fight in Court.

Three hundred dollars was voted by the Walla Walla county commissioners to Prosecutor E. J. Smith, with which to prosecute an old case against Whitman college for delinquent taxes. The taxes have been accumulating since 1901, though on portions of the contested property the taxes have since been partially paid.

Prosecutor Smith will secure as his assistant Lester Wilson of Seattle, formerly prosecuting attorney of Walla Walla county, and the case will be taken before the United States supreme court next month, according to Mr. Smith's statement. Much of this land has been donated to the college, and some of it with delinquent taxes at the time of the donation, it is said.

On the county books there appear 900 acres of farm land, of an aggregated valuation of \$29,132; 42 city lots and the Ransom-Clark donation claim of an assessed valuation of \$3890 with delinquent taxes previous to 1908 of \$617.42. Mr. Smith stated, however, that the amount of land, of total assessment, and of delinquent taxes is far greater than this, the college having obtained much land since these assessment rolls were made up.

Acting President Anderson of the college, when asked for a statement, said:

"The case was in the United States court two years ago and Whitman won, and though I am no lawyer I believe we will win in the supreme court."

MUCH SNOW IN MOUNTAINS

Ranchers Say Much of Beautiful May Still be Seen in Sections.

According to assertions made by ranchers living on the Blue mountains, there is more snow on the mountains this spring than for nine years. Henry Patrick, who is one of the older residents of the mountains, tells the Dayton Chronicle that eight inches of snow fell on Bekier mountain Thursday.

Z. M. Bartholemew, living 12 miles east of Dayton said: "The amount of snow and the unusual amount of moisture in the ground will insure plenty of water in the mountain streams this summer." Owing to the fact that the melting snow will not soak into the soil predicts a greater supply of water than for years. Once the timber has been cleared from the hills tributary to the Touchet and Patit the water during the summer months becomes so low that irrigation and sanitary conditions are interfered with. This year it is thought the supply will be maintained through the summer.

On the foothills this spring the snow is from four inches to a foot in depth while at Oregon Buttes, near the Tuk-anou breaks, there is said to be six to eight feet, with additional snow falls every few days. There will be an abundance of mountain pasturage.

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