

What the Editors Say.

Sixty millions of dollars a year added to the payroll of the railroad companies must be paid by some one, and that someone is the public. Every one who ships over a railroad and every one who purchases commodities shipped over a railroad will help pay this \$60,000,000.—*Sheridan Sun*

When we hear of Grand Master of the State Grange, Spence of Oregon City, or Tax Liberator Smith, of Roseburg, working against the proposed road bonding law, all that is necessary in our mind to excuse them for the act is to look at the motive. Both of these men are alleged to be drawing a good big salary from the timber interests of the state to fight each and every movement that proposes the expenditure of state money, and from what is seen and heard of them there is little doubt of their effort to earn those salaries.—*Lebanon Criterion*.

The railroads in granting the demand of the Adamson law, state that it means an additional outlay of sixty millions of dollars each year, and they will ask permission from the interstate commerce commission to increase their freight rates in order to meet this alleged deficit, which leads the "freight consumer" to remark that he will soon get his "premium" in the way of advanced charges on the bill of lading. When the railroad magnates concede to an increase in wages—or any thing else—you can put it down in black and white that somebody's going to pay the bill—and it won't be the railroads, either.—*Umpqua Valley News*.

One of the very first questions asked by a man before he buys a farm is "how far is it from town?" The better the town the more money will the farm bring and the easier it is to effect a sale. It is therefore evident that the farmer is almost as much interested in his home town's upbuilding and advancement as are the citizens of the town. No prosperous and progressive farmer wants to invest his money in a farm, no matter how near it is to town, if that town is sleepy, dead and nonprogressive one. It behooves all to unite in a common cause, trade at home and work for the upbuilding and development of our town and community.—*Harrisburg Bulletin*.

According to the bill as amended, creameries have to pasteurize milk, but farmers offering butter for sale do not if they pursue a certain course. They are permitted to sell butter provided they first make application to state veterinarian to have their cows tested to see if they are found free from tuberculosis germs. This test will cost them nothing. After making application and until the arrival of the state veterinarian they are permitted to sell butter. If he finds cows affected there must be a plant put in, or he will give the farmer a certificate showing a clean bill of health and farmers can sell their butter product without installing pasteurization plants.—*Independence Monitor*.

Some people in Oregon seem to think that six millions is a big amount of money for good roads. Down in California, where they have good roads and are willing to spend good money for them, such a sum would be considered paltry. If all proposed county bond issues are carried, California will have appropriated \$101,000,000 for improved highways by 1918. Of this enormous sum \$15,000,000 now is being expended in completing two trunk state roads and laterals running north and south. If the California farmers were not profiting by their having good roads, they certainly would not be willing to support such a tremendous road program. If Oregon is to get out of the mire, she must build good roads. At least Oregonians have an opportunity to make a good start. There is no reason why the voters should not approve the road bond measure referred to them by the Legislature.—*Telephone Register*.

The state highway commission could have greatly cleared the situation by announcing its appointment as engineer instead of waiting until after the election. There is no use of digging up old sores, but is useless to disguise the fact that the engineer will be a vital factor in the vote on the bonds and even a suspicion that a certain gentleman who is one of the applicants may receive the appointment will cause many adverse votes. Engineering of highways a few years ago did much to kill the good roads sentiment for subsequent years, for the counties that suffered flatly refused to countenance methods followed, and a suspicion that similar methods might prevail in expending the bond issue will effectually kill the

proposal. A campaign of education is said to be planned, and as its most effective future. The Independent suggests a full and frank statement by the highway commission together with its nomination of engineer.—*Independent*.

Oregon people are too suspicious. We elected Governor Withycombe by a handsome majority. This meant that a majority of the people felt that they could trust him. Now that he is doing his best, and has appointed probably as good a highway commission as could be found in the state, fault is being found with the commission because they do not appoint a highway engineer, and begin their plans for road work. Why not trust our officers more? Confidence is most important. The Telephone Register wishes to reiterate what it said in the beginning: Take plenty of time to consider with unprejudiced mind the road bonding act. Don't get hot headed and think you can dictate a better course than the governor and his board. Trust the officers you elect, and co-operate with them as honest men seeking the best good of the state. Oregon is big and rich enough to build good roads, and until she gets them she will be greatly retarded in her advancement. This is the best opportunity Oregon has ever had to secure highways over which business can be done at all seasons.—*Telephone Register*.

In the clamor and confusion over the prices we pause to pay honor where honor is due. We refer to the little women, with a family of four or five who keeps her family together and the wolf away from the door on \$15 a week, says the Des Moines Capital. Efficiency engineers and high salaried financial experts should take off their hats to the business manager of the \$15 a week home. She buys the groceries and prepares the meals, clothes the children and sends them to school, keeps herself and her husband looking respectable, pays the doctor bills and guards the family against debt. No elaborate budget shows where each penny should go nor what to buy and what not to buy. Mother has it all in her head and she can tell, barring accidents, just where the family will be financially a year from date. The country is not over-supplied with this type of women. The homes which claim one are getting scarcer. Pity should be given to the family that lacks a manager, where a dollar has no staple value, but only passes as a certain means to an indefinite end. The mother manager is the heroine of the modern home.—*News Times*.

"Suckers."

Where it not for government supervision of the mails, exercised to prevent the public from being fleeced by downright fraudulent schemes, "fishing for human suckers" would be about the most profitable business a person could engage in. Months ago, for instance, a gang of shrewd swindlers located at Minneapolis and advertised they would send a sample silk petticoat to any woman remitting ten cents. The government of course took charge, the swindlers fled, and probably every paper in the country has explained this fraud, yet replies and dimes still accumulate at the Minneapolis postoffice, the number of responses now being only a little short of the million mark.

As an illustration of eagerness of some people to be swindled, one case is cited by the inspector at Minneapolis. A Wisconsin woman sent her dime for one of these "gift" petticoats, and her letter was returned to her stamped "Fraudulent." Apparently interpreting this as a suggestion she had used the wrong address in her first effort, she again sent the letter with the enclosed dime, this time addressed to "Fraudulent," with the same street address. Which caused the disgusted inspector to exclaim, "What's the use?" a comment that appears rather mild, under the circumstances.

It certainly does seem strange that so many people are willing to "bite" at the bait of swindlers, and it well exemplifies the old saying that "a sucker is born every minute." The wise person, on the other hand, appreciates the fact that whenever something is promised for nothing, or for next to nothing, the transaction bears the stamp of a swindle on its very face and should be studiously shunned.—*Polk County Observer*.

Rank Foolishness.

You occasionally see it stated that colds do not result from cold weather. That is rank foolishness. Were it true colds would be as prevalent in mid-summer as in mid-winter. The microbe that causes colds flourishes in damp cold weather. To get rid of a cold take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is effective and highly recommended by people who have used it for many years as occasion required, and know its real value. For sale by Lamars Drug Store.

The Telephone Girl.

The telephone girl sits in her chair and listens to voices from everywhere. Hears all the gossip, she hears all the news, she knows who is happy and who has the blues; she knows all our sorrows, she knows all our joys, she knows every girl who is chasing the boys; she knows all our troubles, she knows our strife; she knows every man who is mean to his wife; she knows every time we are out with the boys, she hears the excuses each one employs; she knows every woman who has a dark past; she knows every man who's inclined to be "fast" in fact there's a secret "neath each saucy curl of that quiet, demur looking telephone girl. If the telephone girl would tell all that she knows she would turn half our friends into bitter foes; she would sow a small wind that would soon be a gale, engulf us in trouble and land us in jail; she could let go a story (which gaining in force) would cause half our wives to sue for divorce; she could get all the churches mixed up in a fight and turn all our days into sorrowing nights; in fact, she could keep the whole town in a stew if she'd tell a tenth part of the things that she knew. Now doesn't make your head whirl when you think what you owe to the telephone girl.

The Possible Naval Fight.

These are the days when the main British fleet that is keeping watch over the entrance to the harbor where the main German fleet is laying in wait should be on the alert night and day. The prediction that Germany will soon move all her forces in one grand attempt to close the war, and that her fleet will emerge and give the British battle, is most probable. If this happens it will be the battle of the age. On Germany's part it will be the test of whether Great Britain is to be longer safe behind the walls of steel. Since the great Armada was shattered and dispersed, England has depended for safety upon her navy. Whether that is a safe dependence lies, at least in part, on a trial with the German navy; and if that test is sprung, the result will be the concernment of the whole world.

The men in command, even the men who man the guns in those great fleets, fully comprehend what will be at stake if that battle is joined. So important is the outcome that Germany will never make the trial save as a last resort. If it comes, it may be expected that the blue jackets of Great Britain will fight as never before; and when the battle is over, Trafalgar will look like a skirmish by comparison.

If it comes, Nelson's signal: "England expects every man to do his duty," will not be necessary; for every man of the English fleet will realize that it is to be a fight, not only for but possible for the life and certainty for the prestige of the British empire.—*Seaside Signal*.

High Cost of Being Governed.

High taxes may have as much to do with the high cost of living as the soaring prices of pork chops and unions. It is folly to imagine that a poll tax and a property tax are the extent of their contribution to the cost of being governed. Mr. F. G. R. Gordon, addressing the Haverhill, (Mass.) Rotary Club, brought out the tremendous load the high cost of being governed lays upon every household.

A two billion dollar Congress means a tax of \$100 per family. If to this we add state, county and municipal expenses we have a grand total of \$175 a year for every family, almost \$3.50 per week.

Nearly 15 per cent of the cost of government goes to pay interest on indebtedness, and in the last twelve years the public debt has increased more than 100 per cent. "That government is best which governs least," is a Jeffersonian maxim.

Australia and New Zealand, where the government has taken over many lines of private business, has a family debt of \$1,555 as against only \$65 in the United States.

Yet there are some who still think that Uncle Sam ought to run the railroads, the telegraph and telephone. Already we are carrying on our backs a million and a half officeholders, working short hours and drawing big pay. Can the taxpayers afford to add to that self-expanding army?—*The Manufacturer*.

For Disease of the Skin.

Nearly all diseases of the skin such as eczema, tetter, salt rheum and barbers' itch, are characteristic of an intense itching and smarting, which often makes life a burden and disturbs sleep and rest. Quick relief may be had by applying Chamberlain's Salve. It allays the itching and smarting almost instantly. Many cases have been cured by its use. Sale by Lamars Drug Store.

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