

GATE CITY JOURNAL

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INSPIRES CONFIDENCE.

No one can read the inaugural address of President Wilson without a feeling of renewed confidence in the stability of our government and the ultimate triumph of true democratic principles. Its most encouraging note was a recognition of the fact that our government as administered at present is not perfect; that there are governmental abuses that must be abated if the nation is to escape another baptism of blood. It was this inability of past administrations to see any wrongs that needed righting that caused many patriotic citizens to despair. The assumption that everything was all right and didn't need any "fixin'" when for the great majority life resolved itself into a struggle for existence that a few might become enormously wealthy was an attitude that was hard to bear by those who realized the true conditions.

The address of the new president gives grounds for the belief that an honest attempt will be made to right these wrongs, not from a partisan standpoint, but in the interest of the entire citizenship. Instead of "pointing with pride," as has been the custom of previous administrations, President Wilson pointed out a few of the more flagrant abuses and suggested how they might be abated, and the undoubted earnestness and sincerity of purpose of the speaker inspire the hope that something worth while will really be accomplished.

What looks at this distance like a preconcerted effort to railroad a man to the insane asylum was successfully carried out in Idaho last week. A committee consisting of three members of the state legislature and three physicians examined one Machold as to his sanity and two of the legislators and all three physicians reported him insane. One legislator submitted a minority report denying that the man was insane, but the majority report was adopted by the legislature. Admittedly the only evidence of his insanity was the fact that he had been involved in a number of lawsuits and claimed that he was persecuted by the courts. The examining committee refused to take any action to ascertain if this claim was well founded. As the whole question of the man's mental condition hinged upon this one point the committee was either inexcusably negligent in its examination or was intentionally making a fake examination.

Apparently the efforts of the Journal to have the eighty odd square miles of good agricultural lands adjacent to Nyssa, now held as an oil reserve, thrown open to settlement are destined to bear fruit. As noted in the Journal of last week, Senator Chamberlain has introduced a bill which has for its purpose the opening for homestead entry of all the lands of the state now held as coal or oil reserves. If this bill becomes a law it will add a vast empire to the agricultural area of the state, which a too complaisant congress has allowed to be locked up for the benefit of a few oil speculators. The Journal feels like throwing a bouquet at itself (seeing as how nobody else will) for having called the senator's attention to the abuses existing in this connection. Our feeble efforts seem likely to result in a more far-reaching action than we had foreseen.

An investigating committee in Chicago has reported that the low wages paid to shop girls is largely responsible for the white slave traffic in that city. The committee contends that girls cannot live decently and have reasonable comforts on less than from eight to ten dollars per week, whereas their incomes range from four to six dollars per week. What is true in Chicago is true in every other large city. And this leads us to wonder if we haven't been attacking the vice problem from the wrong end. If instead of attempting to regulate the social evil, steps had been taken to do away with the conditions largely responsible for it, the results would doubtless have been more satisfactory. To be sure, this would have necessitated an attack upon existing industrial conditions and would probably have entailed unpleasant consequences upon the reformers. Possibly it was for this reason that we have chosen the line of least resistance and content ourselves with futile endeavors to regulate that which we might have prevented.

Since our last issue the presidency of the United States has changed hands and the country is under a new administration. This change from a republican to a democratic regime was unaccompanied by any great national cataclysm, such as one would have been led to expect, judging from pre-election statements. The earth still continues to revolve on its axis with undiminished speed and the moon has not refused to give her light. Concerning the retiring president, probably the least said the better. Few of his warmest supporters will claim that his administration was a success, while his enemies make many serious charges against him. The new president enters upon the discharge of his duties enjoying the confidence, to an unusual degree, of the electorate. Time alone will tell whether or not this confidence is well placed.

According to a report based on an investigation by the bureau of labor and submitted to the house recently, hard coal companies increased the wages of their employees at the rate of \$4,000,000 a year by the strike agreement of last May and increased the price of anthracite to consumers \$13,450,000. Thus for every dollar of increase in wages the consumer pays over three dollars to the coal companies. At that rate the coal companies could afford an increase of wages to their employees every once in awhile. What we can't understand, however, is why the coal trust waits for a strike before raising prices. All they have to do, apparently, is to say that the price of coal shall be so and so, and it is so. We fear that not many of us, having like power, would be so considerate.

Possibly the Idaho committee that found a man insane because he had been engaged in a number of lawsuits went upon the theory that for a poor man to try to obtain justice in our courts was prima facie evidence of an unsound mental condition, in which case there was some method in their madness.

From time to time we hear reports of alleged activities in oil development in this vicinity. Wonder if this action of the oil promoters has any connection with the fact that Senator Chamberlain is taking steps to have these oil reserves thrown open to settlement?

An exchange fears the removal of the duty on sugar would increase the cost thereof to the consumer. The tariff has been protective, probably, of as many fool ideas as any other one question, but this one is certainly entitled to head the list.

The spectacle of Huerta conducting the investigation of the killing of Maderio somehow reminds us of the Idaho supreme court in conducting its contempt case.

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J. BOYDELL

NYSSA, ORE.

WM. SEXTON

The Ontario Argus refers in a disapproving manner to the alleged fact that "three hundred women teachers went to Salem and forced the legislature to give them life positions, the members not daring to offend the woman vote." The Journal does not share our worthy contemporary's displeasure over this action of the female voters. If they can get anything out of an Oregon legislature they can do more than the male voters have ever been able to do and are worthy of all praise. Here's to you, ladies. We welcome you with open arms as worthy members of the body politic of our great commonwealth.

Figures presented to the London county council recently show that the mighty city on the Thames, which has grown in numbers year by year for 1000 years, now is losing population. From 1901 to 1911 there was a loss of 550,000, while in the last twenty years there has been a loss of 860,000. There have been many other mighty cities of the past that have grown and flourished and crumbled to decay, and it looks as though London had reached the zenith of her greatness and was doomed to follow in the footsteps of those which have gone before.

Out of seven contestants in the try-out exercises Friday evening the male sex was not represented. Each and every one was a girl. And yet we are prone to wonder why it is that women are crowding to the front in intellectual pursuits and bid fair to oust man from his position of boasted superiority.

PROFESSIONAL.

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NEWS NOT CURRENT

Resume of World Events Told

Portland Rose Festival 1913 to cost \$100,000

Secretary Meyer the defeat of the two

Society women of have agreed not to go for hats.

Money trust invest tee recommends rev banking laws.

Eastern Oregon 100 miles to attend ti for farmers at Burns.

President Taft parti al prisoners on acc vious good character.

All requests for ti are being refused unt geon-general has m tests.

British merchants i war on the opium juring also the trade India.

The U. S. senate amendment to the su \$1,500,000 for a go at the San Francisco e

Official circles in lieve General Huerta the Mexican situation in that country will i smoothly.

It is said that Wil ing a plan to include dent in cabinet cou an office for himself building.

The government l against the Union Pa an alleged attempt to from the Mississippi west points.

Dayton, Ohio, wi the grounds where th ers made their first fl than-air machines, bronze statues of the

The widow of Ci Antarctic fame, has r British government ti she would have recei band returned alive, forth be known as La

Troops continue t the Mexican border.

The rule of mi seems to grow in fav

Both houses of th legislature adopted nouncing the killing Suarez.

Mexicans executed at a time, 95 Madero volited when they hear the ex-president.

The Cornucopia Mi Eastern Oregon, ma lion by insured parcel offices in Walla Walla

PORTLAND M

Wheat—Track pri 86c; bluestem, 95c; red Russian, 84c; 85c; per bushel.

Barley—Feed, \$23. ing, nominal; rolled, Corn—Whole, \$27; Millstuffs— Bran, shorts, \$23@23.50; m

Hay— Timothy, mixed, Eastern Orego 12.50; oat and vet \$11.50; clover, 10c

Oats—No. 1 white, Apples— Spitzenbu \$1.25@1.50 per box; Yellow Newtowns, ex @1.50; choice 75c@1

fancy, 1.25@1.50; I pin, extra fancy, \$ kaness Black, extra f Baldwin, extra fa

choice, 75c@1; Rom @1.50; Ben Davis pack, 50c@60c.

Vegetables—Artich dozen; cabbage, 1c p flower, \$2@2.25 per @4.50; rhubarb, sprouts, 10c pound; g

nips, 90c@1 per sac @1; carrots, 90c@1 Onions—Oregon, \$1

Potatoes— Jobbin banks, 50c per hundre Poultry— Hens, 1

18@20c; turkeys, livi choice, 25c; ducks, 13@14c.

Eggs—Fresh locals, 19c dozen; current re Butter—Oregon, c

37c pound; prints, 31 Pork—Fancy, 10@1

Veal—Fancy, 14@1 Hops—1912 crop, p 16@18c pound; 1913

15c pound. Wool—Early shorn tains, 15@20c pound.

Grain Bags—94@92 Cattle—Choice stee

good, \$7@7.30; me choice cows, \$6.50@

6.50; medium, \$5.50 ves, \$5@9; good heav @7.50; bulls, \$5.50@

Hogs—Light, \$7.6 \$66.50@7.10. Sheep—Yearling @6.25; ewes, \$4@5.

7.25.