

## THE CAPITAL JOURNAL

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### ALASKA AND ITS POSSIBILITIES.

"ALASKA appeals tremendously to my imagination," said Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the interior, just before he left Washington on a tour of inspection of the work being done under his department. The secretary has a long head and evidently knows a good thing when he sees it. Few if any, even the residents of that big and rich territory know anything of its vast possibilities. We are all disposed to look upon it as an icebound, snow-covered country, incapable of growing crops, or of no value other than as a producer of gold and furs.

We overlook one thing, and that is that in the far north the lateness of the spring and the shortness of the season is offset by the fact that there is little if any night, and that growth continues uninterruptedly, from sprout to harvest.

Of its mineral resources we know but little, in fact the vast territory is an unknown country. That it contains immense bodies of coal is known, and while yielding half a million a month in gold, it is practically unprospected along that line, and what its ultimate yield will be no one can even guess.

That it will, much of it, grow wheat has been abundantly demonstrated, and the samples of vegetables grown at the Arctic circle would make those grown here in Oregon hustle to beat them. It is a virgin territory and offers a splendid field for trying out government ownership ideas. The territory is so sparsely settled that no private company will be tempted to build railroads through it, and as the development of the country will demand transportation facilities, it will become necessary for the government to do the work, or subsidize some company, and this system is not now in good repute. It is probable that the first government owned railroad in Uncle Sam's territory will be built in Alaska. Its fisheries are another great source of wealth, and its timber of incalculable value. Strange as it may seem to most of us, Alaska is to come to the front as an agricultural country. There will be a time in the near future when Alaska's wheat crop will have to be taken into consideration in the world's markets, and the price of beef and mutton in this country may yet depend on "Seward's Folly."

### A GREAT SCHEME OF ROBBERY.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of "our copy" of a type-written letter ostensibly sent us by the author, one Peter Radford, Texas Farmers' Union. At least that is what he signs himself, and for all we know what he may be. Peter writes more like a paid promoter, a smart, wordy, worker of the lead pencil variety, who would defend Pontius Pilate and the rabble at the crucifixion, if paid for the work, rather than a farmer. The letter was written for the benefit of Wells Fargo express company, more than likely at its dictation, and for the purpose of assisting that company in getting an everlasting grip on the food products of the United States, and the consumer and producer alike at its mercy.

Peter draws a picture, a moving picture, of the great benefits that would follow the making of the express companies the middlemen of the whole country. This great Wells Fargo express company takes the load, and has already organized an "Order, Commission and Food Products Department." Sounds fine, doesn't it? It is what Peter calls the "most weighty economic project now before the American people, and the most gigantic co-operative plan that has ever been submitted in which the prosperity of the producer, carrier, dealer, consumer and all the people, is mutually and equitably involved." It will cut down the cost of living 30 per cent, it says so itself, and Peter says so for it. It is going to involve everybody, too, and that is no dream, that is if everybody is silly enough to be involved.

Peter is not like his famous namesake of some 1900 years ago. He is just the opposite. He denies nothing, but goes out of his way to admit almost everything, especially if it is had about the big transportation companies, including the Wells Fargo express company. Peter eases his conscience thus:

"The common carrier has, in many instances, been satisfied to look upon the distress of the farmer with indifference and has given small concern to a glutted market. He usually gets his before the stuff is dumped and sends a glib-talking agent to express sorrow to the producer and collect any balance due on the freight and then sets about to encourage an increase in farm tonnage next year, but now these mighty agencies of commerce are looking toward the marketing side of the farmers' problems and the common carrier never faced more golden opportunities for usefulness than now confront him."

We hope he feels better after getting that load off his mind, but he certainly told nothing that the public did not know long ago. That is the reason he admits it so cheerfully. He, as the lawyers say, "confesses and avoids." The companies were bad, but now they have found a way by which they can come to his relief—and their own—and at the same time be good. Everyone who has ever had business with an express company knows that it would take the last acre from a blind sow with nine suckling pigs, in a nice business way, of course, and have the pigs jailed for squealing, besides. Then Peter, just to make us all feel good, "fesses up for the companies, and shows some of the things they have done, and points out that the companies are now all good and will not do such things as gouging the public any more—unless they get a chance—and that the Ethiopian has changed his skin and the leopard is now spotted.

Peter points out that the fellows with the giant intellects and gall, "illuminate the pathways of commerce," when they should throw their light on the trail to the penitentiary instead, must get in touch with the plow handles and the producer. Peter need feel no alarm on this account. The giant intellects will touch the farmer up all right and make him produce just as always only more so, even though they can add nothing to the productiveness of the farms. Peter outlines his plan for making the big fellows feel the "heart throbs of agriculture," and invites all farmers to get together in "an organized effort to uplift agriculture." Here is the way he puts it:

"Our common carrier have made mistakes. They have endeavored to become masters and sit in the councils of the great and they have paid the penalty for getting out of their place. They are the teamsters of civilization and belong in the servants' quarters. The politician has been making a saddle horse out of the common carrier and riding into office; the courts have, in some instances, whipped him repeatedly and the commissions have cut down his

rations, but he will never have peace of mind or ease of body until he returns to the barnyard and eats out of the hand of his master—the producer. He will then be properly protected, sheltered, clothed and fed and given such privileges and favors as belong to faithful and efficient servants.

The heads of these great institutions, whose giant intellects illuminate the pathways of commerce, should come back to the soil and renew their acquaintance with Mother Earth. They should occasionally swing a scythe, wield an axe and plow a round or two so as not to forget their raising. A touch of the plow handles makes us all kin. The heads of great railroads cannot look out of a private car window and comprehend our problems; neither can they acquire understanding by sending a messenger with a standing collar and a long title to make typewritten reports. The heads of these institutions must get back to the soil and take hold of the plow handles if they want to feel the heart-throb of agriculture."

Peter forgets that when the lion and the lamb lie down together in these modern days, the lamb is invariably inside of the lion. The express companies especially Wells Fargo, before the advent of the parcels post, according to a report made by an investigating committee in California, "earned" 66 per cent a month or 800 per cent a year and declared dividends of that amount. This is what Wells Fargo did when it had the people in its grip. It has lost that grip and is now seeking a strangle hold. The old song applies peculiarly well to the express companies:

"The devil was sick, the devil a saint would be,  
The devil was well, the devil a saint was he."

### ALL CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.

DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY HELTZEL Saturday filed an information against Y. Koda, husband of the Japanese woman killed at a Jap restaurant here Thursday night, and also against Joe Nakamura, and I. Matsura, both Japs, charging them with murder in the first degree in the killing of Koda's wife and baby and Joe Kiyokawa. The evidence against them is, so far, purely circumstantial, but it is strong enough at least to warrant their holding pending investigation of the crime.

According to the latest story, the police were careless in not searching the house thoroughly, the basement being overlooked, or, as some one said, "it could not be searched because the door was locked." This, in the light of subsequent developments, was a serious mistake, for Friday night some one broke into the basement. There was nothing in the basement the next morning, and presumably nothing the night before, unless it was the bloody clothing of the murderer or something that might have some bearing on the crime. Whatever it was the burglar was after he presumably got, and disposed of so that it is gone forever. However, the net is tightening around Koda, all the circumstances pointing to him as the criminal.

Even the nature of the wound that deprived the little baby of its life bears testimony against him. It was the disemboweling, the hara-kari, the seppuku, the death given by the Japanese government to disgraced noblemen. It is prominently the death for "disgrace."

Of course it is possible that Koda is innocent, but when one considers that the motive of the crime was undoubtedly jealousy, it points to either Koda, the husband, or to some other lover of his wife, who was jealous of the dead man. It is known that the woman and the man who was killed with her were, let us say, very close friends, but there was no other man known, who bore this relation to her, and so with jealousy as the motive the evidence all points to Koda as the murderer. The fact that his friend, Nakamura, was on the scene so soon after the crime that he picked up the baby still alive, indicates that he was present when the crime was committed. The district attorney did well in filing an information against the three Japs, for it is pretty certain that the other two, if they had no part in the crime, at least know the criminals and were present when the murder was done. It is hardly probable the preliminary examination will disclose the murderer, but it will probably justify the holding of all of the accused over to the grand jury, and time will do the rest.

Colonel Goethals, the builder of the Panama canal, announces that the last blast, the one that will tear away the dike at Gatun, the last barrier to the opening of the canal, and the meeting of the waters, will be fired October 10. Whatever may be done by the eastern side of the continent, the Pacific coast will keep the day in remembrance, and it is probable make it a public holiday.

Professor Thomas Shaw, one of the best known authorities in the country on all industries and interests that affect the farmer, says that putting wool on the free list is not going to injure that business in any way. He points out that in England, where land values are much higher than in America, that millions of sheep are being raised and that it is one of the most profitable branches of farming. The professor says "if the American farmer undertakes to raise mutton of quality, sheep raising will be found exceedingly profitable, though there may be no tariff on either mutton or wool." He adds that the sheep grower should prepare to raise the general standard of the industry and embark in it more heavily than ever.

### X-RAYS. THE ROUND-UP.

The Portland association of credit men found Albany to be so clean, that it is a contrast to all other Oregon cities, and so much so that it is really offensive.

The Eugene Guard tells of a cow that feeds early in the day before the flies gets busy, and when these pests go on shift the lactical factory removes herself to a laundry and stands under the steam pipe escape.

Denver is getting moral. It permitted a bunch of society girls to go bathing, but when a newspaper published a picture of the girls sitting in a canoe in their bathing dresses, the editors were indicted. Anthony Comstock cannot beat this, and he has for some years held the undisputed world's record for being the biggest fool in it. The Medford-Mail Tribune republished the picture.

Pittman, of the Medford-Mail Tribune was mentioned quite prominently in connection with the office of state printer. A splendid man, but whether "a practical printer of ten years' experience," is unknown to us. That was required as a condition to holding the office.

Queer, isn't it, how the men watch to see if there is any change in the style of slashing the hobble skirts?

If it were not for the thousands who are persistently at work in harvest fields now, we city folks would become hungry, ere long.

## Attend Our August Sale--Powerful Reductions

Made in all departments to make fast selling. During this month there will be no mercy shown to prices.



### Advance Showing

of the latest new fall styles in ladies'

### Suits and Coats

\$7.90, \$9.90 and \$12.50

for suits that will be later on \$15, \$18 and \$25.

\$4.95, \$7.90 and \$10.90

for coats that later on will be \$10, \$12 and \$18.

### Middy Blouses, now

49c, 75c and 98c

\$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00

### Shirt Waists

NOW

49c, 75c and 98c

We make the low prices for Salem.

### NEW STYLES IN

### One-Piece Dresses

Lingerie, silk and wool. A dandy assortment to choose from. Every garment 1913 latest. Price

\$1.49, \$1.98, \$2.50, \$3.50, \$4.95 and up

### New Silks and Dress Goods

Ten thousand yards to choose from in all the latest materials and newest shades. Sale price, yard.

25c, 35c, 49c, 65c and up

### Twenty Thousand Yards New Fall Millinery

Of 1913's newest Wash Fabrics now on sale. The greatest stock in Salem to choose from. Come here for bargains.

Yard, 4c, 5c, 6 1-2c, 8 1-3c, 10c and up

Now on display. Satin hats and all the rest. \$7.50 and \$8.50 Hats

\$1.49, \$1.98 and \$2.50

### CHEWING TOBACCO GROWING IN FAVOR

Shows By Recent Large Increase In Sales of a Popular Chewing Tobacco.

Recent increases in the sales of Piper Heidsieck, a high-grade chewing tobacco are pointed out by tobacco experts as an indication that there is a decidedly growing preference for plug tobacco. It is the general opinion in the tobacco trade that this is due to wider appreciation of the fact that tobacco is most satisfactory when chewed. The manufacturers of Piper Heidsieck are taking advantage of the present trend in bringing this tobacco to the general attention of tobacco users here.

Local tobacco dealers have been supplied with a limited number of standard safety razors, and are giving one to each customer who purchases ten cents' worth of Piper Heidsieck. The razor is going so fast, say the dealers, that the supply is being rapidly depleted. They advise patrons who desire one of the free razors to act quickly. And experienced tobacco user seem to be a unit in the opinion that Piper Heidsieck is a very fine, satisfying chewing tobacco. The occasion, therefore, seems to be an all-around bargain.

The Independence Monitor thinks the hop crop will not be so large as generally reported. The quality will be first-class.

If many people were to think before they speak they would forget what they were going to say.

The Best Pain Killer. Bucklen's Arnica Salve when applied to a cut, bruise, sprain, burn or scald, or other injury of the skin will immediately remove all pain. E. E. Chamberlain of Clinton, Mo., says: "It cures cuts and other injuries of their teriors. As a healing remedy its equal don't exist." Will do good for you. Only 25c, at J. C. Perry.

The only cash drug store in Oregon, owes no one, and no one owes it; carries large stock; its shelves, counters and show cases are loaded with drugs, medicines, notions, toilet articles, wines and liquors of all kinds for medicinal purposes. Dr. Stone is a regular graduate in medicine and has had many years of experience in the practice. Consultations are free. Prescriptions are free, and only regular price for medicine. Dr. Stone can be found at his drug store, Salem, Ore., from 7 in the morning until 9 at night. Free delivery to all parts of the city.

Medford reports the sale of several carloads of Bartlett pears at \$1.90 a box, the record price.

Six hundred little girls, dressed in the present costumes of 13 different nations, will dance on the green sward at Peninsular Park Monday afternoon.

One hundred and eighty thousand young rainbow trout have been distributed in the streams of Jackson county.

Forest Grove is now taking care of