

## THE CAPITAL JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY

The Barnes-Taber Company  
GRAHAM P. TABER, Editor and Manager.

An Independent Newspaper Devoted to American Principles and the Progress and Development of Salem in Particular and All Oregon in General.

Published Every Evening Except Sunday, Salem, Oregon

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**  
(Invariably in Advance)  
Daily, by Carrier, per year . . . \$5.20 Per month . . . 46c  
Daily, by Mail, per year . . . . . 4.00 Per month . . . 33c  
Weekly, by Mail, per year . . . . . 1.00 Six months . . . 50c



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### THEY DO NOT BELIEVE IT.

SENATORS GALLINGER, GRONNA, PENROSE, and that class are much worried over the tariff because, for one thing, they say it will not at once reduce the cost of living, and they contend that because of this the Democratic party will go down in defeat at the next election. Their tenderness in this connection is noteworthy and commendable, from the view of the patriot, or for that matter from that of the Democrat; but it is rather inconsistent on their part, and shows that they do not believe what they state, for if the passage of the Underwood tariff bill would, as they claim, knock the Democratic party out for all time, they would be doing everything in their power to assist in getting the bill passed.

The truth is they do not so believe, but they do believe that it is necessary to placate the big interests that elected them, and on which they must depend for their re-election. Then, too, they overlook the fact that the tariff is no longer a party matter. Every platform at the last election had a plank pledging the party to a reduction of the tariff, and they, as well as the Democrats, are in duty bound to reduce it.

What they fear is not that the reduction of the tariff and the passing of the Underwood bill will kill the Democratic party, but that it will strengthen it with the people and result in their retirement from their seats in the senate, rather than the retirement of the Democratic party. The fight against the bill is made for selfish reasons and no other. The people have arrived at the conclusion after having carried the protected industries until they are saddle-marked, that any business that is a burden on other business, that requires that some other, or every other industry be taxed to maintain it, is a very good business to drop. No private business man would carry on a branch of his business that was a drain on the other departments of it, that was not self-sustaining, but required supporting, that was a dead loss; and the great mass of the American people have reached the same conclusion as to national affairs. "Every tub must stand on its own bottom," is a good saying to keep in mind in this connection, and the sooner Messrs. Gallinger, Gronna, Penrose and that gang of patriots commit this to memory the better it will be for them. The American people have made an army of Carnegies, Schwabs, Guggenheims and that class of tariff made multi-millionaires, and they are not proud of their handiwork.

### ROOSEVELT IS OUT OF IT.

ALREADY the politicians, or would-be such, are arranging the ticket for 1916 and first among those to be taken into consideration is Roosevelt. It is a long time until 1916 and much may happen before that time. While Roosevelt is in good health now, he is mortal, and may have passed over before that date. However, if he should be on hand, as he very likely will be, he will cut no ice in the 1916 campaign. With his great popularity, he made a very poor showing in 1912, and this not because his admirers had lost faith in him, but because of the unwritten law against a third term. The vote in 1912 emphasized that feeling and served notice for some time, at least, that the American people would not tolerate a third term, no matter who might want it.

Roosevelt occupied the presidential chair about 7 years and 8 months, and while he did not serve two full terms, his election again would mean that he would hold practically three terms, and this in the present temper of the American people will not be permitted. Roosevelt has strength enough, perhaps, to dictate the candidate of the Progressive party in 1916, but that is as far as his power extends. Those who are so busy making up the program for the next election might as well eliminate Mr. Roosevelt from their calculations. Besides the old party may get itself joined in matrimony again, for both its members are, we think, rather sorry they ever instituted proceedings for a divorce. They find it rather hard getting along without each other, and this feeling will be stronger as time and failure to get a happy home brings them to a keener realization of the loneliness of their separate lives.

### THE DOCTORS' DAY IN COURT.

INSANITY is largely a question of locality, according to the developments in the Thaw case. So long as Thaw was on this side of the border where his life was in danger if pronounced sane, he was crazy as the proverbial March hare. So soon as he reached Canada, where if he was insane he would be deported, the doctors got out their charts and wands and pronounced him perfectly sane. Time was when the legal fraternity was held up to the world as the profession without the saving grace of honor. The lawyers, it was generally supposed, would do anything in the way of beating the law, not stopping at subornation of perjury, or for that matter at taking a swear at it themselves, if necessary, and the fees were high enough. They will have to look after their laurels, or the medical aggregation will take this proud distinction away from them. In these days anything in the way of insanity can be proved or disproved, as needs be, by the medical fraternity, and it can be proved both ways at the same time and also demonstrated by still other physicians that both theories are wrong and that the patient is sane and insane minute and minute about. The doctors are in the saddle in the courts now, for when all else fails, their testimony will show that the party about to get what was coming to him and what he deserves is at least irresponsible.

It is indeed pleasing to note that the senate and congress is patriotic enough to lay aside party when it comes to backing up Uncle Sam, and stands firmly behind the president in his dealing with Mexico. After all, we are all of us, regardless of politics, Americans first and Democrats or Republicans afterward. It is also a matter of pride to every American that all the foreign powers are throwing their influence with the United States in its effort to get the Mexican people on their feet, and to establish a permanent peace.

Heroism is far from being a lost trait of humanity, as witness an accident at Albany last Saturday, which would have resulted in the death of little Ora

## LADD & BUSH, Bankers

TRANSACTS A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS. SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES. TRAVELERS' CHECKS.

Gentry, aged 4 years, who fell in the Oregon Power Company's ditch a few feet above the falls, and in a moment would have been swept over them to death, but for the prompt action of Veryl Hoover, a 7-year-old boy who at the imminent risk of his life, jumped in after the girl and succeeded in dragging her to the side of the ditch and keeping her head above water until they were both rescued. It was a brave act gallantly performed.

Portland is trying to decide the question: "What is a loaf of bread?" It is said the present loaves sold in that city run from 8 to 16 ounces, and the city sealer of weights and measures is preparing an ordinance requiring all bakers to label each loaf giving its exact weight in ounces. It is proposed to establish a loaf weighing between 12 and 16 ounces as the standard.

Judge Henry McGinn, of Portland, is taking the fast cure and has eaten nothing for 19 days. The dispatch says nothing has passed his lips but Bull Run water in that time. This indicates that Portland's famous water supply must be meat and drink both, and contains much solid food, though Henry is said to have lost 25 pounds since beginning the fast.

The advancement of civilization is nowhere more startlingly in evidence than in Klamath Falls, where a few years ago the wild red man and wilder cowboy held sway. Where the tinkle of glasses on the bar in the burdy-gurdy was heard all night, where the lid was off and Sunday unknown. There, now, the city council purposes stopping the "bunny hug" and all that, and may tackle the "X-Ray" gowns and split skirts.

Bud Anderson, the pug, is named as co-respondent in a divorce action at Oregon City. The husband charges that his wife writes love letters to the little bruiser, goes joy-riding with him, and calls him affectionate and endearing names. In other words, Bud has knocked the husband out, and the latter is taking the count.

### THE OPEN FORUM

The Capital Journal invites public discussion in this department—Let both sides of all matters be fully brought out—it is not the purpose of this newspaper to do the thinking for its readers.

### ROADS ROAD EXPERTS.

Editor Capital Journal:

In the "Review of Reviews," for August there appears an article from the pen of Walter C. Tiffany, regarding public roads. In regard to bad roads he writes as follows:

"One of the most thorough investigations of the subject ever conducted, the results of which are used as a text wherever the doctrine of good roads is preached, was made by the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Association. While the conditions investigated were those of territory tributary to Minneapolis, they are undoubtedly typical, to a greater or less degree, of those existing elsewhere.

"A committee of the association selected for investigation the farming district, 750 square miles in area, the trade of which is tributary to Minneapolis. From a thorough canvass of the conditions existing there it was found that the 4000 farmers in the district hauled 500,000 tons of farm produce to market in 1911 and sold it for \$6,665,080. To do this they had to make 305,000 trips, the time spent equalling 800 years of 8-hour days and the distance covered 88 times the circumference of the world. Bad road conditions caused losses in time, partly due to slow progress, partly to the necessity of taking less direct routes, and partly because smaller loads had to be carried. Detailed investigations showed that the losses in time were as follows: Due to not taking the shortest route, \$62,000; due to slower progress, \$75,000; due to extra trips necessitated by smaller loads, \$159,000—a total loss of \$296,000. Losses from inability to reach the best market, from the spoiling of product, and from injury to horses and wagons were found to aggregate \$221,000; from restricted ability to haul manure, \$91,000. The total loss caused by bad roads was placed at \$608,728.

"The committee made the following deductions: On account of bad roads each farmer lost for the year \$1.70 for every acre that he farmed; 13 cents every time he carried a ton of farm produce over one mile of bad roads; 9 per cent of his total crop. He paid as much for bad roads as for labor; more than for feed for his stock; twenty-five times as much as for fertilizer. The total loss to the farmers in this district for the year from this cause would have bought all the corn produced in it, or all the wheat or the oat crop twice over, or all but 10 per cent of the potatoes, or all the barley, rye, flaxseed, timothy seed, hay, and forage combined. The losses would replace the farm implements or the cattle every three years, the horses every four years, and would pay off all the mortgages in the district in three years, with \$100,000 to spare.

"The farmers, moreover, were not the only losers from bad roads. The committee found that the worst sections of the roads they had to travel between

their farms and market, were within the city limits; that there were approximately 3600 business houses in Minneapolis, employing 5000 wagons, whose loss from bad roads was \$910,000 for the year.

"The combined loss of the farmers, merchants, and manufacturers for one year was \$1,518,000. As there are about 3000 miles of roads in the district, which could have been kept in good conditions for \$5000 a year, if properly constructed, in order to ascertain what amount could profitably be invested in good roads, the committee deducted this amount from the total loss, leaving \$1,200,000. Capitalized at 4 1/2 per cent, or 5 per cent, which is more than bonds would cost, the principal is \$22,000,000. If this amount were invested in good highways at \$7000 a mile, the district would still break even on the investment."

In such writings he states that the 3000 miles of road mentioned could be maintained for \$3000 annually.

Our scientific road experts are marvelous engineers if they can maintain public roads for \$1 per mile, annually, after they are properly constructed.

In regard to the great losses of farmers on account of bad roads, I will cite a case of a farmer near, having hay transported over bad roads of Oregon.

The owner of a small tract seven miles out, had eight tons of hay hauled to Salem by an auto truck this season. Two tons were hauled at a trip and four were made in one day. When eight tons of hay are hauled seven miles by one truck in one day, over roads where farmers have wasted all dribble road funds for the past 40 years, it is time we had some scientific experts, to figure out the great economic loss from such road conditions; especially when all the funds expended in such road districts, for the past 10 years, did not amount to \$25 per mile, annually; yet

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the roads were not only maintained, but have been gradually improved.

What would our scientific road engineers have accomplished with such meager funds? Probably they could have made some preliminary surveys and drawn a few maps each year; but nothing more.

Hurray for scientific building of public roads, paralleling railroads; for the pleasure and comfort of automobile tourists; the profits of contractors and transient laborers and the tax bleeding benefit of farmers.

Yours truly,  
GEO. C. MITTY,  
Salem, Oregon Aug. 15, 1913.

### MOST VALUABLE FRUIT TREE.

What is probably the most valuable tree in the world is an alligator-pear tree at Whittier, Cal., which netted its owner a profit of \$320 in one year. This tree was planted in 1905 and began bearing in its fourth year. In 1912 it bore 3000 pear, which sold for \$1500.

while the sale of buds during the same year amounted to \$1700, making the total given above. The tree is a seedling, the seed having been planted with a quantity of other seed which had been imported, presumably from Mexico. Another tree, which was planted at the same time, and which stands close to this phenomenal bearer, has never borne more than 50 pears in a

season. Pictures of the tree and of its fruit appear in the September Popular magazine.

TRY JOURNAL WANT ADS FOR THEY BRING BUSINESS

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