

TUESDAY EVENING,
April 13, 1915.

Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

CHARLES H. FISHER
Editor and Manager

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SUNDAY, SALEM, OREGON, BY

Capital Journal Ptg. Co., Inc.

L. S. BARNES, President CHAS. H. FISHER, Vice-President DORA C. ANDRESEN, Sec. and Treas.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Daily by carrier, per year.....\$5.00 Per month.....45c
Daily by mail, per year.....3.00 Per month.....35c
Weekly by mail, per year.....1.00 Six months.....50c

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JAPAN AND CHINA

There is international speculation upon the demands made by Japan upon China and which are being psychologically pressed at a time when several European powers are engrossed with war, says the Boise, Idaho, Statesman.

There are two angles to Japan's attitude, one affecting the "open door" in China, the other China's territorial integrity or national independence.

It seems improbable that Japan would close the Chinese door, or even threaten to do so, for that would involve international commercial rights of such a momentous nature as to cause action by various nations, including the United States.

Japan would gain little by such a policy even though it were not resisted, for she has a free field already in southern China for her more staple productions. She can sell there against the competition of the world. On the other hand, Japan probably could never compete with the United States in the exportation to China of such provisions as flour. But there is a larger reason as against the probability of the "closed door" and that is Japan's inability to enforce its policy in the face of any energetic opposition. It is not financially able to do so. The national debt of Japan today is a billion and a quarter dollars. With a wealth of at least fifty billion dollars less than that of the United States, it owes over two hundred million more than this country.

The people of Nippon are already taxed to death. Rich and poor alike feel the hand of taxation laid upon them heavily. It is stated that out of every dollar the Japanese wealthy business man gets he is compelled to give sixty-eight cents for the support of the government!

It is also doubtful if Japan will attempt to destroy the territorial integrity of the Chinese empire, but it is not unlikely that it will drive a shrewd bargain, in view of its strategic position, in financially exploiting China through a system of railroad, mining and banking concessions.

To this the powers could not raise much objection, for most of them have been doing the same thing.

BESIDE THE TUMBLING BROOK.

Almost the pleasantest sound in the whole world is that made by free running water in a hilly country after a rainstorm. It is the oldest symphony concert in the world, and the instruments that produce it are the most perfectly toned and the most harmonious.

It is as if the good-natured little hillside gods were laughing and chuckling and gurgling among themselves at the pure joy of being alive and being a part of such an uncommonly promising earth.

It is as if old Pan himself, relieved of the responsibilities which have lain heavily upon him when he was a heather god, were smiling to himself out loud.

It sounds as if the world were exactly all right as it is, and that there were no human beings, meant to live out in the rain and wind and sun, cooped up instead in dark boxes and quarreling, struggling, starving and hating one another over nothing.

It sounds as if it would surely cure all mankind of sickness, wickedness and unhappiness, if only some great physician would think to prescribe it for them.

Man has not lived in a box for so many years that he does not remember how the rain used to patter when he lay out of nights, and how the green that meant food for him used to poke up out of the ground when the sun came out. The days of great cities crowding the earth are in his history only days.

So he still quivers inwardly to the drip of the rain and to the rumble of the brook, though it may have come to mean for him only a maddening swirl of umbrellas on a crowded sidewalk, the smell of wet clothing in a crowded street car and the splash of mud from whirling motorcar wheels.

In recognition of his services as mayor of Marshfield for eight years, the friends of Dr. E. E. Straw of that city, surprised him by presenting him with a newly-built six-room cottage. It is to be hoped that this incident will spur other Oregon mayors to greater efforts in behalf of their municipalities. Anyway it proves that there is still an opportunity to achieve honor and win the respect of one's constituents in public office.

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SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

"It is seldom that a fellow who has attained marked success in the management of his own business affairs comes around to tell how a newspaper should be run, which, possibly, may throw some light on why he has been able to achieve success in his own affairs," remarks an exchange. Surely so. None know so much about how other people's affairs should be run as those who know the least about the running. This is true as to newspapers. It is also true as to bringing up families. People who never had any children to bring up just bubble over with knowledge on the subject of how children should be reared, and some are raking in the shekels for telling in syndicated articles what they think they know but in fact don't know, any more than some editors do about the questions they discuss. So it's about even all around.

While Great Britain has a record of 78 deaths in six submarine disasters, and France 77 in four, the F-4 is the first American submarine to suffer a serious mishap, and this is "the first time that the life of a man in the American Navy has been sacrificed in underwater maneuvering." Thus pride in the efficiency and good fortune of American submarine designers and navigators accompanies editorial tributes to the young men who went to their mysterious death in Hawaiian waters. For the cause of the accident, it is generally thought, must remain unknown until the official inquiry takes place after the success of the toilsome efforts to bring the sunken submarine to the surface. The F-4, as one press-writer puts it, "simply made a plunge while in practice and did not come up again."

Here is the way an Eastern newspaper looks at it and it may be worth thinking about: "The landlords of San Francisco and Pacific coast towns ought to keep in mind the experiences of some of the Chicago landlords of world's fair days. The success of the expositions out there and of the campaign in behalf of seeing America first depends much upon the way the landlords act when making out the bills for travelers and sightseers."

Dispatches giving the news from the fields of battle state that staggering blows are being dealt in the great war. It is not alone on the field that the staggering blows are being dealt and felt. The common people of every nation at war will feel the staggering blow that taxes will deal them for years to come.

The men who filed charges against Judge Ben B. Lindsey, of Denver, were themselves indicted by the grand jury while the judge was exonerated. After awhile they will know enough to let Lindsey alone even if he does persist in beating up the jungle occasionally.

If the workmen of England were less addicted to drink, so we are informed, they could turn out more arms and ammunition with which to slaughter people. That being the case, is John Barleycorn doing humanity a service or not in this particular case?

One of those Terre Haute politicians, on being sentenced to the pen, remarked that his "conscience was clear." Another evidence perhaps that politicians possess consciences and also that they are of a peculiar brand.

If we should listen to these advocates of "preparedness for war" and build up a great navy, only to find it as ineffective as England's in time of need,—well would it be worth the money?

They don't allow Sunday baseball games in Philadelphia, but as long as Billy Sunday held the boards on that day they didn't miss it much.

Clackamas county claims the record in Oregon for the number of divorce cases filed. Reno has little on Oregon City in this respect.

Oddities of the War Brought Back From Ranks

Petrograd—The Russian government has prohibited the exportation of all Lindsey of Denver juvenile court was exonerated of all charges of misconduct in a report of the county grand jury, filed yesterday. Frank L. Rose was indicted on a charge of criminal libel in connection with affidavits reflecting upon the character of Judge Lindsey.

London—Members of the London National Guard—merchants and professional men training for reserve duty—are daily practicing the art of trench digging within a stone's throw of St. Paul's cathedral.

London—A British "tenney" home from the front on leave told how his pet bird dog on sentry duty with him "pointed" two Germans in time to save him from walking into a trap.

Paris—A French private back from the front related how an English newspaper woman in Belgium stayed in a room while German bullets were flying and unobtrusively powdered her nose, then walked calmly to safer quarters.

Petrograd—Russian officers report cannon captured from the Germans evidence that they were the same ancient pieces used in the Franco-Prussian war.

London—A wounded soldier brought to London hospital gasped "My name is Ford, Cork—wife and seven children." Then he became unconscious. The war office found the wife and brought her to London expenses paid, two days before her husband died.

London—A young English officer back for a week from the water-soaked trenches in France apologized to his host for a bad cold saying he "caught it" after arriving in London by taking

Clear Judge Lindsey: Indict His Accuser

Denver, April 13.—Judge Ben B. Lindsey of Denver juvenile court was exonerated of all charges of misconduct in a report of the county grand jury, filed yesterday. Frank L. Rose was indicted on a charge of criminal libel in connection with affidavits reflecting upon the character of Judge Lindsey.

Governor George A. Carlson announced at noon that later today he would veto the bills designed to transfer the authority and duties of the juvenile court to the district court of Denver county.

London—A London newspaper has instituted a campaign to gather "five shilling hampers" for the soldiers containing food, tobacco and candy. Hundreds are sent daily to the trenches.

London—A London publishing house announces that a book on the "Life of King Albert of Belgium" is now in the hands of Albert at the front who is himself reading and revising the proofs.

London—British officers at the front call a German field howitzer a "Whiz Bang" and a light field gun a "Little Willie."

London—Buckingham palace, King George's home prefers gas to electricity and has installed 28 gas lamps with an illuminating power of 20,000 candles about the palace.

The rule of love is usually more effective than the rule of might.

STATE NEWS

Pendleton East Oregonian: In the window of the Beer hardware store last evening was exhibited one of the finest specimens of the fur of a cross fox ever seen here. It was brought here by a man from Walla Walla county who had caught the animal in a trap. The tail of the fur was a particularly fine one.

Redmond Spokesman: Over in the Paulina section of the county the people are holding a rabbit drive every week at some place in the valley. It is reported that the last drive netted 640 rabbits, and the week before 1,290 of the pests were killed. The people go to the matter systematically and use poultry wire for the corral, with wings half a mile long on each side of the gate, and these corals are moved to each point where the next drive is to be held.

Gold Hill News: The "swat the fly" season has been opened with great vim by Rogue river trout. Capital catches of cutthroat and mountain trout are reported daily by these who love to flip a floating fly into the eddies and riffles of the best angling stream in the coast country. In the warm intermittent sunshine of the spring rains myriads of natural flies are emerging from their swaddling clothes to dance across the enticing water. Hence the trout are on the job early and late.

Coe Bay Times: Cedar railroad ties that for 22 years have served faithfully on the Coe Bay, Roseburg & Eastern, have finally been dug up and Saturday will go south to do the greatest of their life work, be exhibits in the Coos and Curry County displays at the exposition to show strangers what can be done with Port Orford cedar. Fred Chestnut is busy getting the new dairy and wood displays ready for the next sailing of the Nana Smith. He finds that the ties are practically as good as ever after being buried in the ground. Several pieces of piling, showing a sound heart still after years of service, will also be shown. Mr. Chestnut will have butter and cheese samples from the Coquille Valley dairies and cheese factories.

The voters of Florence have authorized a new school building to cost \$5,000, and a bond issue to build it with.

Fifth street, in Anity, is soon to be graded and graveled, incidentally, hitting racks that have been an institution on that street for half a century are to be changed to a new location.

On the proposition of home patronage, the Eugene Register says: "Buying the output of the factories that are already located in Eugene is a sure and easy way to induce other factories to locate here."

"The fact that southwestern Oregon is attracting the attention of outside capital is gratifying," observes the Marshfield Record. "This part of the country cannot be overlooked and it is quite likely that this summer will see many investigations and possible investments of those who have the money to start big enterprises."

Chuyon City Eagle: Why must Canyon City be annoyed with the cow nuisance? Why should the town be made a cow pasture? There is not another town in the state of Oregon that puts up with such a nuisance. Last Tuesday a cow tackled a load of groceries on the delivery cart of a local store and destroyed about half of the load while the delivery man was calling on a customer.

Oregon City Courier: Moballa may have to pay the price of greatness pretty soon, and see her taxes get higher. Since the advent of two railroad lines in the city in the southern end of the county, there has been a general boom on, and property values have undergone a general increase. County Assessor Jack has noted this, and believes that it will soon become his duty to make a new assessment of the community.

DOES RHEUMATISM BOTHER YOU?

The Doctors Say "Use MUSTEROLE" So many sufferers have found relief in MUSTEROLE that you ought to buy a small jar and try it.

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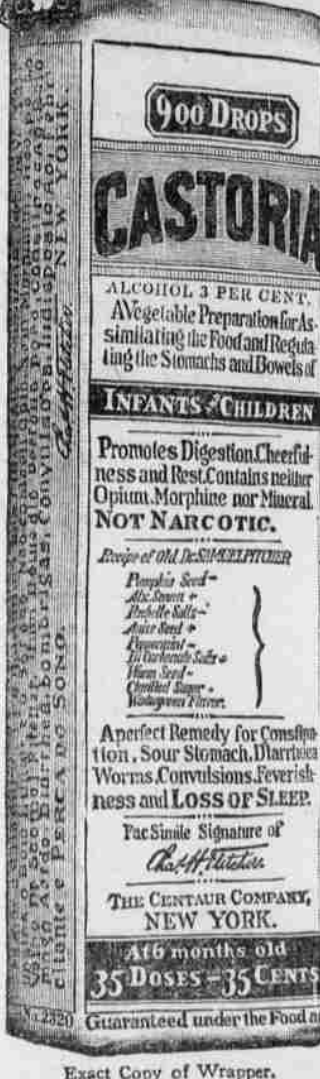
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Negro Population Of United States

Washington, D. C., April 12.—The bulletin on negroes in the United States, soon to be issued by Director Sam L. Rogers, of the bureau of the census, department of commerce, indicates that there has been among negroes an increasing tendency toward home ownership, a marked increase in the percentage of school attendance, a pronounced decrease in the percentage of illiteracy, a decrease in the mortality rate, and an increase in the proportion of church membership.

This bulletin, which is a special compilation of information derived from the thirteenth census and from other inquiries conducted by the census bureau, is being together in one publication all the principal data pertaining to the negro race which are in the possession of the bureau. The work of planning and arranging the statistical tables, as well as all the clerical work, was done by negro employees.

Increase in Negro Population.
The negro population of the United States increased from 757,298 or 9.3 per cent of the total population, in 1790 to 9,827,753, or 10.7 per cent of the total, in 1910. The increase between 1900 and 1910 was at the rate of 11.2 per cent, while during the same period the white population increased by 22.2 per cent. Since 1910 there has been a continuous decrease in the proportion which negroes have borne of the total population, due, at least in part, to the fact that the white population has been continuously augmented by immigration, while there has been no such immigration of negroes during the past hundred years.

The largest negro population in the state in 1910 was that of Georgia, 1,769,887; Mississippi was second, 1,009,487; and Alabama third, 908,282.

Of the 9,827,753 negroes in the United States in 1910, 7,777,007, or 79.1 per cent, were reported as of pure negro blood; the remaining 2,050,746, or 20.9 per cent, being claimed as "mulattoes."

For census purposes this term covers all persons of mixed white and negro blood, whatever the proportion. The figures indicate a continuous increase in the percentage of mulattoes during the past 40 years.

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