MONDAY EVENING, December 6, 1915.

Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

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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

FULL LEASED WIRE TELEGRAPH REPORT

EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES

New York: Ward-Lewis-Williams Special Agency, Tribune Building
Chicago: Harry R. Fisher Co., 30 N. Dearborn St.

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THE WAR NOW BETWEEN DIPLOMATS

There is but little fighting comparatively in the war zones. What there is is mostly in Serbia, and compared to some of the other war clashes it is trifling. At the same time, however, the diplomatic battle being fought is the hardest and most hotly contested of any since the war started. It may be that the final outcome of the war depends almost entirely on the outcome of this diplomatic battle. It is indeed possible that this contest of brains will be the one that will finally lead to the gateway of peace.

Little Greece is at present the most important country in Europe, as on her action depends that of all the warring nations, and each and all of them are making most violent love to her. Into whose arms she will fall is the question that is making all Europe wait with bated breath for the answer.

Rumania is next in importance and she too is being wooed most ardently by the diplomats of all Europe. Should both Greece and Rumania go the same way, it would be almost fatal to those they decided against, and especially so should they decide against Germany and her allies, for this would give the French and English a free hand in the Balkans, and at the same time force Greece into the war on the side of the allies.

Germany would class her as an enemy, and the same thing would happen if Rumania should give the Russians passage through her territory.

This would be looked upon as an inimical act, and so she would be forced into the war on the side of the allies. It really looks as though the beginning of the end is in sight in the Balkans.

SHOULD ACT ON THE SUGGESTION

If the editorial in the London Globe anent the action of our government in requesting the withdrawal of the German attaches, Von Papen and Boy-ed is not an invitation for president Wilson to jump on to England and go as far as he pleases, what is it? The editorial reads:

"It is refreshing to find the American government acting with vigor and independence. Notes, followed by more notes, then followed by nothing, had gravely lowered America's dignity in the eyes of friendly nations and of Americans themselves. It was time that Washington did something more than display an admirable literary style."

As our dealings with England over some very ugly acts on her part have been largely "a display of an admirable literary style" the editorial is simply a rather impudent fling, an intimation that England does not care a cent what this government does. It praises our literary style but laughs at what it evidently thinks is our cowardice.

The president should take the Globe at its word and give England a sample of something American besides literary style. A little embargo on war munitions and food stuffs, would stop all interference with American shipping, and would also win high enconiums from the American as well as the German press.

President Wilson has just received a letter from President Font of the republic of Andorra, one of the oldest and by far the smallest independent republic in the world. The republic dates from the year 805, is situated in the Pyrennes between France and Spain and contains about 167 square miles, or 110,000 acres. It is divided into six departments each represented by four congressmen who each gets a salary of $2.50 a year. The president's salary is $20 a year. Holding a big government position in Andorra is almost equal to being of the Salem city council, at least in the matter of salaries.

A young lady friend remarked on hearing Ford had started with his gathering on his peace mission that she thought "the company was starting without sufficient dress rehearsal."

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The records of the secretary of state's office show that of the $175,000 appropriated for Oregon's display at the Panama exposition, $24,845.47 remain unexpended. Now the question arises whether this was due to good management or whether this little wad was overlooked. We incline to the former idea and hence commend the board that had charge of the expenditure for setting so remarkable an example, and again giving Oregon the distinction of setting a new mark and breaking all records.

It is said that "blessings often come in disguise." It might be added that some blessings, or things so considered, come in such a shape that many other things are disguised by them. For instance just when the world is congratulating itself on the perfection of wireless telegraphy, Ford starts on his peace mission and we can't even get a rest from him while he is in mid ocean.

With three movie picture men along and about one newspaper reporter for each delegate, Ford is evidently prepared for giving full publicity to his peace government. Jason's voyage to gather in the golden fleece, and Coelebs in search of a wife are the only cases in history at all resembling Mr. Ford's venture. It might be added that both these efforts were failures.

The difference between wages and salary is that between the adjective and the adverb. Wages are hard-earned and salaries hardly-earned.

OPEN FORUM

A Railroad Rumpus.

Salem, Ore., Dec. 6, 1915.

Mr. Editor:

I have read your editorial concerning the land controversy between the State Board and the Southern Pacific railroad and it was a masterpiece and I shall not try to add anything either pro or con but I regret that such controversies arise as they are generally injurious to both sides. We all concede that we could not exist without the railroads. They are an absolute necessity and on the other hand the railroads could not exist without the people and and both ought to work in harmony for their mutual benefit. My mind runs bak to a controversy of this nature in Nebraska. Uncle Sam aided the U. P. and B. & M. as well as other roads by donating the odd numbered sections for a width of 20 miles on eah side of their respective roads. The U. P. ran up the Platte valley and on to the coast. The B. & M. extended from Plattsmouth to Kearney a distance of 190 miles. These roads ran parallel and part of the way so close that their land grants overlapped and it was then left to the secretary of the interior as to which road should have the land, and it was decided in favor of the U. P. as it was built first but that the B. & M. might select enough land elsewhere to make up the shortage, and though this road was a South Platte institution they selected a very small amount from two South Platte counties and the remainder was chosen from seven of the best sparsely settled counties north of the Platte. From Antelope county they selected 57,256 acres in the very best part of the county. Enough to give homesteads of 160 acres each to 359 families while the nearest point to their railroad on a straight line from Neligh the county seat was 10 miles. The matter was then taken to court to legalize the transaction and in 1879 it was decided in favor of the railroad but during all this time the company paid no taxes and after it was deided in their favor they refused to pay only by way of ompromise and the very best offer they made was 60 per cent and this only after it had been placed in the hands of attorneys for colletion. A number of the counties did compromise but in 1882 Antelope county brought suit and in 1884 the court decided that the company should pay 70 per cent for the years 1873 to 1878 inclusive and thereafter in full which the company did, but during those 11 years the ompany had paid no taxes. The county was new and these lands had kept it from settling up the assessment roll was small and in spite of the economy practiced by the officers they were obliged to issue bonds to float expenses. The settlers during this time had a hard task to exist but the yhauled their spare wheat 65 miles across these very lands to market. Many had ox teams taking a week to make a trip. Took provisions and bedding and feed and slept generally out of doors at night and sold their wheat as low as 40 cents a bushel and paid their taxes in full. The settlers afterward paid from $600,000 to $800,000 including interest for these lands but felt that they had enhanced the value by improving the adjacent lands. The company no doubt thought they were right and the courts so decided but the settlers were not pacified. They talked, reasoned, argued, cussed and discussed. They agitated until they actually came to believe that the railroads in general were manipulating politics. Furnishing passes to legislators, congressmen and other officials and were not paying their share of taxes, etc. Other railroad cases were cited and finally matters outside of railroads were brought in. The seed of discord had been sown. It not only sprouted but was growing rapidly. Like a prairie fire the more it was fanned the more it spread and in the early nineties the harvest came.

An organization was effected and while other matters were brought in the railroad question was predominant. Candidates were placed in the field and a school house campaign inaugurated. The legislature was thereby elected and the result was that railroad taxes were raised. Passes virtually abolished, a law passed by which a board of railroad transportation was elected and more than all. The passenger rates were reduced from three cents to two cents a mile. These legislators acted very naughty, judging by a speech made by a receiver of a certain railroad recently at St. Louis. The question now is, who began the fight, who was the winner and who the loser, and how much was the gain?

RETUS.

STOMACH MISERY QUICKLY VANISHES

Your money back if you want it is the way in which Daniel J. Fry, the popular druggist, is selling Mi-o-na, the great dyspepsia remedy.

This is an unusual plan, but Mi-o-na has so much merit and is so almost invariably successful in relieving all forms of indigestion that he ran but little risk in selling under a guarantee of this kind.

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Daniel J. Fry gives his personal guarantee of "money back if you want it" with every box of Mi-o-na that he sells. A guarantee like this speaks volumes for the merit of the remedy.

Society's Duty to the Underworld

"Society's Duty to the Underworld" was discussed last evening at the Unitarian church by Walter A. Denton. As expressed by the Rev. R. F. Tischer, the study of the unfortunate has been a hobby of Mr. Denton, and therefore his opinions are entitled to more than ordinary consideration.

The prevention of crime and a study of the causes and their removal by society in general is just as essential and perhaps more so, than the detection of crimes after committed.

Sentimentalists and those who go to the penitentiaries to sympathize with prisoners and urge their paroles, often do more harm than good and eventually cause restrictions to be placed on those who really wish to help and who have made a study of prison conditions.

Mr. Denton paid a compliment to the Industrial commission for its work in establishing a minimum salary of $6 a week for girls working in stores, but was of the opinion that more might be done to help the working girl, as there was nothing to prevent a business house from giving employment during the apprenticeship period only.

Referring to the question asked some time ago by Governor Withycombe as to why the prison population was increasing and why so many young men were sent up on forgery charges, Mr. Denton thought that the business man was too easy with credits and after the young man had been living beyond his means, he finally attempted to raise money on forged paper.

One of the evils of the day was the movies. The plays that brought out the crowd were those in which the lower passions were featured, or where the characters take their lives in their hands.

Society's duty to the underworld was more in removing many present conditions that lead to crime, and at the same time, preventing crime, rather than education. "The standard of success must be changed from dollars and cents, to that of character," said Mr. Denton.

MRS. EMILY Y. MOORE DIES.

Roseburg, Or., Dec. 6.—Mrs. Emily York Moore, pioneer resident of Oregon and the first graduate of the Willamette university, died here tonight after an illness of two months. Prior to coming to Roseburg a few weeks ago she lived at 987 Savier street, Portland for many years.

Mrs. Moore is survived by a daughter, Mrs. George E. Houck, worthy grand matron of the Eastern Star Lodge, of Oregon. Mrs. Houck lives in Roseburg. Funeral arrangements had not been completed late tonight. Mrs. Moore had an extensive acquaintance throughout the state.

STATE NEWS

Polk County Observer: English walnut culture in Polk county is no longer an experiment, several groves having matured in excellent condition and are producing, in abundant yields, a fine quality of walnuts for an eager market. But the larger number of groves are immature, a number of them having been planted four or five years since. The greatest area devoted to walnut is that near Monmouth, planted by Charles Ireland and now owned and controlled by a company known as the Monmouth Walnut Tracts, and containing approximately 200 acres.

Sutherlin Sun: G. A. Archambeau left at the Sun office Wednesday a basket of ripe strawberries grown on his ranch just east of town. The berries are unusually large and of fine flavor, and to all appearances fully up to the standard of those grown during the earlier months of the year. The fact ripened strawberries can be produced as late as in the middle of November speaks volumes for the climate of Sutherlin valley.

Rogue River Courier: Sunday was an ideal day, and hundreds of citizens appreciated its spring-like balm. Scores were fishing upon the river, and some catches that crowded the limit were made, the steelheads taking the bait greedily. The recent rise of the river has caused a fresh run of both steelheads and salmon to ascend the river, and every riffle is now populated with its piscatorial denizens.

Lake County Examiner: Much has been written and said about extingishing the rabbit pest which prevails in all parts of Lake county, but nothing has been done. Only an occasional drive, here and there, has taken place, while some have tried poisoning, both plans proving not of much benefit to the farmers. The Fort Rock people have taken the matter up, putting a petition in each postoffice and newspaper office in the entire country, asking the court to place a bounty on bunny's scalp.

Brownsville Times: James Ferriell raised 20 acres of corn this year which averaged 70 bushels to the acre. The corn is of an excellent quality and proves the fact that good corn can be grown in Oregon, and especially the Willamette valley. The corn is of the Golden Dent variety, well filled on the cob and of uniform size. Ira Hutchings secured a sample of the corn which he sent to the International Corn Show at Omaha, Nebraska. With the more extensive cultivation of this crop the hog and cattle business will flourish, as its cultivation increases.

Silver Lake Leader: The first rabbit drive of the season was pulled off at Fort Rock November 9. There were 3540 slaughtered at the pen, with enough killed before reaching it to come up to the 4000 mark. The drive was well planned, and had it been properly managed no doubt 2000 more would have been killed. There was no count made of the number of people present, but 150 would have been a close estimate.

Lake County Examiner: That the proposed Silver Lake project proper, consisting of Silver Lake, Paulina, Horning Bend, and Fort Rock units, a total of 48,600 acres, is both physically and commercially feasible, at the estimated cost of $28.10 per acre, with interest charges not to exceed six per cent, if legal difficulties do not prevent the diversion of Sycan marsh waters from the Klamath watershed.

Lebanon Criterion. With faith in Linn county as the best land in the world to raise peppermint upon, W. J. Turnidge, of Crabtree, is preparing to set out four hundred acres of plants between now and growing time next spring. He has large forces of men at work now clearing land and preparing it for the plants which will be set out as early in the spring as the weather will permit. Peppermint growing is a new industry in Linn county but enough of it has been done in the past two years to convince the growers that it can be made a profitable side crop and if properly looked after will undoubtedly be a successful one on a large scale, as is the purpose of Mr. Turnidge.

Medford Mail: W. N. Campbell, whose 160-acre farm lies almost against Talent; in the old Anderson tract, the soil of which is of a type that ought to inspire every farmer to his best effort, reports that he harvested 33 acres of fall wheat of the Little Club variety this year that yielded from 45 to 60 bushels to the acre. At the present price of good wheat it is not difficult to figure Mr. Campbell's return in net profit from that harvest. He had a smaller acreage of spring wheat that didn't do so well by many bushels, by reason of the drouth that overtook it in its prime growing season.

Santiam News: Vivid flashes of lightning, accompanied by heavy peals of thunder early Tuesday morning was a very unusual phenomena for this time of year. This was followed by some hail and heavy rain, which was not so unusual. The chances are that our shortage in the annual rainfall which was reported the first of the month will be made up in a short time if the heavy rains of the past two weeks continue much longer, as it only lacked nine inches of being normal at that time.

Roseburg Review: That approximately 2000 deer were killed in Douglas county during the recent open season for this game is the estimate of Oren Thompson, a local deputy game warden. Although the number of deer killed in Douglas county appears very large, there are still plenty of the animals roaming in the forests of this vicinity. No shortage of deer for next season is anticipated by the game warden.

Oregon Tide: Eugene Crosthwaite, of Marshfield, has received a communication from a man in Texas asking the price on myrtle wood in a quantity sufficient to work into a bar and fixtures. The information has been furnished. The man said he had first seen the wood exhibited at the San Francisco fair and was so impressed with it that he had determined to secure it for his business.

The Newport correspondent of the Toledo Leader writes: "The Newport waterfront presents a very lively appearance at the present time. The Bandon, with 600,000 feet of lumber aboard, is lying at the city docks; the Patsy is discharging freight at the Macdonald docks, and the Gerald C. and Tillimook are also here."

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OBITUARY

Anna Holman Maricle, wife of A. L. Maricle, and a former resident of Woodburn, died at the family home at The Dalles, Oregon, on Tuesday, November 23, the cause of death being tuberculosis, from which she had been a patient sufferer for the past eight months. Mrs. Maricle was born in Minnesota, October 13, 1882, and came to Oregon in 1894 with her husband, living here until a few months ago, when they moved to The Dalles hoping to benefit her health.

The funeral was held from the M. E. church in this city Saturday afternoon, Rev. L. C. Poor officiating, and the interment was at Belle Passi. Members of the Moose lodge of this city acted as pall bearers.

To mourn her loss, Mrs. Maricle leaves her husband and one son, nine years old, and three daughters, aged seven, five and three years. She is also survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Holman of Mt. Angel, two brothers, N. O. and I. O., of Mt. Angel, and one sister, Mrs. Chas. Johnson, of Hartland, Wash.—Woodburn Independent.

Margaret Slover was born in Little Rock, Ark., April 16, 1837, and died at her home in Stayton Nov. 23, 1915.

She was one of the very earliest to cross the plains, coming with her parents in 1853. In 1859 she was married to Elijah Weddle and lived a useful and happy life until her demise. She was preceded by her husband about two years ago.

Four sons and two daughters survive her. They are: W. A. and O. L. of Stayton, J. N. of Scio, E. A. of Mill City, Mrs. Anna Burson of Mehama, and Mrs. Ruby Bailes of California.

The funeral services were held in the Christian church last Friday morning, conducted by R. L. Putnam and she was laid to rest beside her husband in the Lone Oak cemetery.—Stayton Mail.

HOT DOG MEN GOT THE COIN.

San Francisco, Dec. 6.—Though "Stella," life size nude painting, was the exposition's most popular exhibit, figures made public today indicated that the hot dog men made the most money.

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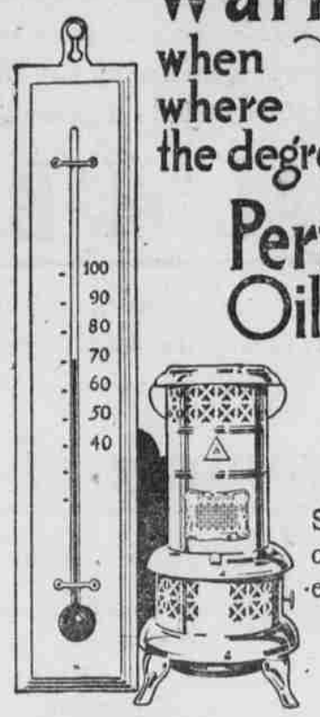

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