

# Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

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Editor and Manager.

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### HAVE YOU WRITTEN? THEN WRITE MORE

The letter writing stunt is on and "everybody's doin' it." Here in Salem thousands of letters were written yesterday and other thousands today. There will be still other thousands as the week rolls by and when the final gathering is made Friday morning at 11:15 there will surely be something to make the postal clerks sit up and take notice.

It is a good bit of advertising too, but like lots of other advertising it will take a little time to get results. That they will materialize is as certain as that the sun will shine next summer. The letters are but the seed sown that must wait until the coming of summer to be ready for the harvest.

It may be possible that these letters will not bring so abundant returns as is anticipated, but that the attention of thousands will be turned to Oregon and a desire to see some of the scenic beauties or the state so vigorously and numerously told of will bring many tourists to Oregon who else had never been tempted this way.

That is all that is required, that the people of the United States be awakened to the fact that their own country has scenery that is not surpassed anywhere and seldom equaled.

A few hundred tourists over the Columbia highway this year means many thousands next year, and ever increasing numbers ever after.

One trip to Crater lake means the taking of dozens of others just from the glowing accounts those who make the trip will have of it. This means that in a few years there will be a steady stream of visitors from the east, who heretofore have gone to Europe for their summer outing, never realizing that here at home we have scenery that makes Italy seem tame and common place in comparison.

Your letter or mine may accomplish nothing, but out of the millions that will be sent some will bring forth fruit abundantly. So if you have already written a few letters get busy and think up some of the old-time friends back east you have not written to for years and give them a surprise by telling them something about yourself and a whole lot about Oregon. The greater the surprise, the more apt to get big returns. Don't overlook anyone, and for fear you do, write twice, rather than miss.

England is finding much fault with her diplomats, and it looks as though she was to have another chance along the same lines. It has been pointed out how the Germans beat her in diplomacy in Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria, and everywhere else where there was a chance to use diplomacy. Now it looks as though Sweden was also to go over to the German side of the controversy and just because the English leaders relying on the fact that England rules the seas, is trying to show the world that she does. King Gustav, of Sweden, in opening parliament yesterday spoke quite bitterly of England and her interference with Swedish trade, and the parliament to a man cheered his speech. It has been thought for some time that Sweden favored the Germans, not so much for love of Germany as for hatred for the czar, and fear of his greater power if he is on the winning side. It is a safe bet that England will manage somehow to encourage the Swedes in their dislike for her, and drive them to the support of Germany, if it can be done.

With all the talk about Roosevelt being the possible republican candidate for president, no one has so far called attention to the fact that it would be his third term, if elected. There are thousands of voters in the United States to whom this would mean refusal to vote for him. At the same time that this feature is being overlooked. Some of the political journals are working overtime calling attention to the democratic suggestion of one term for the president, and insisting that Wilson stand by the one term plank in the platform. If one term is enough for a democrat two should at least satisfy a republican.

### CORPORATIONS GETTING WISER

It looks as though the great companies were at last awaking to the fact that it pays to divide some of the profits of their prosperity with their employees. Time was, and not very long ago either, when a company, no matter what profits it was making simply took to itself all there was in the business without a thought of the condition of its employees.

The more recent idea is to share with the employees some of the extra profits arising from unusual conditions. As a matter of fact prosperous times mean generally higher cost of living, and this is the same as reducing wages.

An advance of ten per cent in the cost of living is about the same as collecting a ten per cent income tax from the wage earner for it takes about all his income to live at any time. If companies generally would adopt this rule there would be fewer strikes and less trouble when there was a real reason for keeping wages down.

Laboring men are sensible, generally, and the reason they strike for higher wages at times is because they get none of the benefits of high prices and unusual prosperity unless they do. If they were granted a raise when times were good they would not object so strenuously to lower wages when times were hard.

In Montana yesterday the miners and smelting employes at Butte, Anaconda and Great Falls were granted a raise of 25 cents a day, so long as copper remains at 25 cents a pound. All the larger mining companies in Michigan also gave their men an advance of ten per cent on their wages during the time copper remains up, and the companies will not miss it.

The weather clerk has certainly been drinking hooch or indulging in diluted wood alcohol. No sane and sensible weather man would be sending four inches of rain in 24 hours down in San Diego where that is a pretty heavy rainfall in two or three years. Then on top of that just imagine if you can a four inch rainfall in Arizona and the deserts turned for the time into veritable lakes. It is no better here in Oregon, where, instead of our usual rains we are having snows that belong a thousand miles north of us and weather that belongs on the Yukon instead of the Columbia.

Now those Norwegians, Swedes and Danes, who joined the Ford peace party in its trip through Germany to The Hague, are sorry for their act. They want to go home, but Germany will not give them permission to pass through her territory and they are afraid to go home by way of the North Sea, on account of mines. Considering his peaceful intentions Ford made lots of trouble for about all who fell in with his plans.

Lincoln hill is about the busiest place in the city, especially of evenings. Last night as usual there were from five to six hundred there and each one just a little bit more jolly than any of the others. It sure is royal sport, and you do not have to be young to enjoy it either. All you have to do is to feel that way.

If you think you have written letters to all your friends and acquaintances in the east overlook the list, and then—write some more. What is desired is to have Easterners give Oregon the "once over" the coming summer. After that, they can be depended on to do the advertising stunt for Oregon scenery and climate.

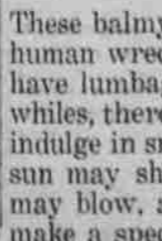
Arrangements are about completed for regular telephone service between Pacific coast points and New York City. As the rate will probably be about \$20 for a three minute conversation the average man will not be in a hurry to avail himself of the opportunity to talk across the continent.

Carranza is showing evidences of good faith at least. The dead bodies of a few Villista generals, is the kind of evidence that is convincing, as well as satisfying.



### THE WINTER DAY

The leaden clouds were blown away, the sun got busy overhead; it was a perfect winter day, without a blemish, critics said. The judges who had passed on days, at many a state and county fair, admitted that we couldn't raise a finer sample, anywhere. I walked nine miles, just to inhale the crisp, keen air that braced like wine; it seemed to render sound and hale these ancient, spavined limbs of mine. And nearly every man I met was grumbling at that perfect day. "We do not want spring weather yet—it's bad for us," I heard men say. "Such weather will relax the pores, and leave us open to disease, and when again the tempest roars, we'll have rheumatics in the knees. These balmy days are simply snares, designed to kill off human wrecks, and when again the blizzard tears, we'll have lumbago in our necks." I get discouraged, often-whiles, there are so many jays on earth, who simply won't indulge in smiles, but dish up brine, a jitney's worth. The sun may shine, and breezes sweet as Eden's spicy airs may blow, and still they'll kick with all their feet, and make a specialty of woe.



### STATE NEWS

**Rogue River Courier:** An albino quail, its plumage as white as the snow that glistens on the mountains, was seen with a flock of 36 valley quail feeding upon wheat scattered under the bushes back of Ered Merrill's home on the south side of the river this morning. Mrs. Merrill has been putting out wheat for the quail in that neighborhood during the past few days of the storm, and every day numbers of the little beauties have been accepting the charity. This morning with the three dozen was the white one, his every feather being as free from color as that of a dove, his crest feathers also being pure white. He mingled with his fellows, and the entire covey being gentle and unafraid, he was viewed at close range by Mrs. Merrill.

**Representative C. N. McArthur** announces from Washington that his allotment of flower and vegetable seeds for distribution is insufficient to supply every person among his constituents desiring them and he will therefore distribute half the supply to residents of Multnomah county outside of Portland, leaving the remainder for those making requests for seeds. It is this way he believes those who really want and will use the seeds will be supplied. Representative McArthur also has several thousand lists of farmers' bulletins published by the department of agriculture which he will send to anyone applying for them.

In the interest of civic loveliness the Forest Grove News-Tribune files this protest: "Another of the 'artistic' sign boards has been erected on Pacific avenue, just off Main, for the joy and edification of the people of Forest Grove. This is the stamp or 'art' being imprinted on our brow, and within a short time the body material of beautiful Forest Grove will be not unlike a man with artistic soul who is suffering with a malignant case of spotted fever."

A new type of motorized sled has appeared on the streets of Pendleton, which is described in the East Oregonian as follows: "Instead of an engine being taken from a motorcycle itself had been fashioned into a sled by removing the front wheel and attaching one steel runner in front and two behind the back wheel."

Musical advancement at Eugene is thus indicated in an appreciative article in the Register: "It is gratifying to all who enjoy fine music, to realize that Eugene has at last the long wished for municipal band and that it is composed of members fully able to render the most difficult and pleasing music under the leadership of a man excellently prepared for the position he holds."

Reorganization of the Pendleton Commercial association along more substantial lines is proposed, and the membership committee has been instructed to present some definite plan at the February meeting. This committee, the East Oregonian says, has seriously discussed the feasibility of acquiring a permanent home for the club.

Appetizing description, in the Moro Observer, of the rabbit hunters' feast spread recently by the Moro Rod-and-Gun club: "The lunch, consisting of oyster cocktails, cider, coffee, cheese and ham sandwiches, apples, etc., was put up by Joe Hendrix and his efficient corps of waiters. The coffee was exceptionally good and the cheese and ham hard to beat."

Twenty-five feet of water at high tide, which means 17 feet at low water, was found on the Nehalem bar by Captain Garibaldi, of the life-saving service, last week, when soundings were made. This measurement was found in the shallowest part. The completion of the south jetty and immense freshets in the river during the last month have resulted in a deep and safe channel around the bar. The new channel is a mile north of the old one. This assures a safe passage for lumber schooners into the river. Lumber interests are greatly pleased at the result of the jetty work.

**Medford Sun:** A few Chinese pheasants have become quite tame in this district since the snow began to fall and cover the ground for two or three days at a time. Near Phoenix they have begun to feed in the morning with the barnyard chickens. A few of those who know their value as "wild game" and the sport of gunning for them in season, have undertaken to feed wherever they have appeared. The snow, however, has not yet been deep enough or remained on the ground long enough to embarrass their quest for feed very much in this valley. It has served to drive them from the foothills, however.

Work is now under way at the Oswego plant of the Oregon Portland Cement company in the construction of buildings and installation of machinery with the idea that manufacturing will actually begin on March 15. Within a week or 10 days virtually all the machinery will be on the ground so that installation can begin. The daily capacity of the plant at first will be 1,200 barrels of high grade cement per day. As the market develops the output will be increased as to allow addition of units as necessity demands.

**North Bend Daily Tides:** Mrs. Esther M. Lockhart, of Marshfield, celebrated her ninety-first birthday yesterday. Mrs. Lockhart holds the distinction of being the oldest pioneer of Coos Bay, coming to Empire in 1851. She was the first school teacher in Coos county.

**La Grande Chronicle:** China pheasants, and other game birds which have

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their habitat in the Grande Ronde valley, are in need of savor. Farmers living in the vicinity of game preserves, where both quail and Chinas are protected, report that there is a general dying off among the birds. Conditions are such that sportsmen will have to assist in feeding the birds if they be not exterminated. Unusually deep snow and rigorous weather has made conditions such that birds cannot well live. Sacks of grain will likely be scattered in such preserves as suffer the most. Many game birds, of course, have wandered away from preserves, and it is to be presumed that there will be general destruction during the winter everywhere. Grouse are reported to be dying in the hills.

**North Bend Daily Tides:** That train will cross the Umpqua river on the line of the Willamette Pacific railway as soon as the rails have been laid to that point, is the report that reaches Eugene from that district. It is said that the train will cross the bridge on the false work as they did over the Sinclair bridge for a long time before the steel was in position. It will be some time before the bridge is completed, but Engineer Broughton, who is in charge of construction, is quoted as saying that arrangements will be made to cross over the false work, thus doing away with the necessity of ferrying over the river.

### PRATIUM NOTES

(Capital Journal Special Service)  
Pratium, Or., Jan. 18.—Miss Aloia Welty has returned from Morzer, Oregon, where she has been visiting her brothers. She reports that the weather there is quite temperate.  
Mr. James Harper spent Sunday with her father, who resides east of this city.  
The Franklin literary society held Friday, January 14, was well attended in spite of the cold weather. The debate on "Resolved, That Oregon's Fish and Game Laws Should be Abolished,"

### PORTLAND'S CLOSE CALL

Portland, Or., Jan. 18.—With icebergs forming on their clothes as they fought against fire and frozen water pipes, firemen at 4:30 o'clock this morning succeeded in quelling a blaze which for a time threatened the entire business section.  
The fire broke out at 1 o'clock in a three story building occupied by Fairbanks Morse & Co. company and was not discovered until it had gained considerable headway. Firemen succeeded in confining the flames to the one building, which was practically destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$75,000.

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