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EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES

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THE PLACE FOR THAT NITRATE PLANT

A report recently issued by the Smithsonian Institute points out that the \$20,000,000 government nitrate plant recently authorized by congress will be only a drop in the bucket toward meeting the military and agricultural needs of the United States for an independent source of cheaper nitric acid for the manufacture of explosives and ammonia for fertilizers.

The report of the Smithsonian institute among other things says:

"If the entire sum were to be put into power-site development, it would furnish somewhere around 150,000 horsepower, capable of yielding in the neighborhood of 50,000 tons of nitric acid, or about one-fourth the estimated military emergency requirement alone; and at that, the entire cost of plant installation, running into the millions of dollars, would have to be additional. To satisfy government estimates of around 200,000 ton wartime requirements would entail a power generation of around 600,000 horsepower, or some 50,000 more than the entire Niagara power development. Such a project would cost around \$80,000,000 to eventuate and in its operation during peace times as an agricultural proposition in competition with other sources would necessitate an annual subsidy running into the millions of dollars, without offering a single advantage excepting as a preparedness measure."

Members of congress, army officers and others familiar with this situation are urging that even if the project fulfills all the projectors hope for it, it will supply only a small part of the more than 600,000 tons of nitrate of soda now imported yearly from Chile. To relieve the strain it is reported that ammonia is being made in ever increasing quantities as a by-product from the coking of coal. It is estimated that from this source if all the ammonia was saved from all the coke ovens it would amount to about 700,000 tons a year, and so far no means have been discovered of converting this by-product, ammonia, into nitric acid, for use in explosives, and its use in confined to agricultural and other industries.

The Smithsonian report shows that the only present hope of securing an abundant supply of cheap nitric acid and ammonia which will make the United States independent of foreign supply, and at the same time reduce the price of fertilizers so the farmer can afford to use them, lies in the development of water powers, for by the use of the very cheapest power alone can the supply of atmospheric nitrogen be obtained.

This is a grave national question and one in which politics and pork should have no place; yet no sooner was the measure proposed than several places were after the locating of the plant at some trifling power source, or at one that would require more than the whole twenty millions to harness a woefully insufficient power.

If the administrative officials who will have charge of the work are good businessmen they will consider the Pacific coast before all others, as the place for the location of such a plant, or any number of them. Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, all furnish ideal sites where the greatest power can be brought under control at the least cost.

About all that is required for the work is power and air, and in the northwest both of these are of the best.

Oregon has water power, going to waste most of it, variously estimated at from 3,000,000 to 6,000,000 horse power. It is also the most easily secured power anywhere, requiring no vast dams or expensive canals. Plants can be placed along such streams as the Santiam, the McKenzie, the Rogue or Deschutes, or any of the dozens of fine streams that pour their floods down from the high areas, taking advantage of the entire force of the stream over and over again at a minimum expense.

Another important feature is the regularity of the flow in Oregon's streams. The snows from which the streams derive their flow are high in the mountains, and last almost the year through. The Cascade mountains extending for about 250 miles across the state are a great

natural reservoir, with an average width of forty to fifty miles. The precipitation is about forty-two inches, measured as water but about thirty feet in snow. The result is a great frozen lake situated at an average height of more than 2,000 feet above tide water, a lake 250 miles long, fifty miles wide and three feet and a half deep. This is one of the sources of supply available for Uncle Sam's proposed power plant.

Another important feature is that the land and water power are still the property of the government or the state, and can be secured at a cost trifling compared with that of the suggested sites in the east. Here is an opportunity for our congressmen to get busy and do something of vast importance to the state as well as to the general government.

TWO YEARS OF WAR

Today ends the second year of the war in Europe. The allies are making a hard drive along the western front, and have made important gains, but it remains to be seen whether they are to be of any more real effect than the German drive at Verdun. The indications are that it will not, and that the Germans will be able to hold against any thing that can be brought against them. Mile after mile of trenches may be captured, but when this is done there are still other innumerable miles of them to be taken and before this can be done the Germans say there will not be enough of the allies forces left to take them.

The Russians are driving ahead on all fronts, and it seems probable that they alone will make a marked success. It looks as though they would force the Turks into asking a separate peace, and if so, it can be taken as a verity that the Russian bear will have his paws on the Bosphorus when it is all over. The Russian drive in Galicia goes on practically unchecked; but the ultimate result of this is doubtful. As it advances into Austrian territory, its danger is doubled and trebled, and beyond a certain point it will probably be impossible to advance.

The war's toll of lives is placed at 3,805,000 and its cost at \$49,356,000,000. This is a staggering sum, but from the present outlook it may be doubled before peace at last comes. And all this loss of life, with its attendant suffering and hardships, and this tremendous burden of debt is due ostensibly to the fact that a crazy fanatic assassinated two persons. Strange as it may seem it is also due in part to the telegraph and the means of rapid communication of modern times. Had the dispute been carried on through the mails, or by messengers as in the old days, it is probable passion would have had time to cool and that the matter could and would have been settled without recourse to arms.

Under the provisions of the Shackleton road bill, just enacted by congress, Oregon will get a considerable amount of government money to be expended for roads in the forest reserves. Naturally Portland wants this money and is now demanding that the state's congressional delegation secure it at once for an automobile loop road to connect with the Columbia river highway. This road would of course be of no use for any purpose except automobile pleasure tours, which is about the highest conception the Portland newspapers have of the use of public funds. They look upon such appropriations as "pork" which belongs to anyone who can grab it first. There are many places in the state where roads might be built through the forest reserves which would be of general use and benefit to the public but the Mount Hood auto loop will probably get the money just the same.

One of the most attractive special editions issued in Oregon for some time past was the automobile edition of the Marshfield Daily Times. It was splendidly printed and arranged and matter timely and well edited. The large amount of advertising space used indicates that the businessmen of Coos Bay are enterprising and progressive in their methods, and are quick to recognize the value to the community of a good newspaper.



A LITTLE CHANGE

My wife keeps busy round the shack; she works until she strains her back; she cleans the dishes and the spoons, she darns the shirts and cooks the prunes, she molds the pies and bakes the bread, and sends the nineteen kids to bed. And every now and then I say, "You've had a long and weary day, so let us don our lids and go to see the moving picture show. Or let us seek the ice cream joint, and our insides with cream anoint. Put on your farthingale, my Belle, and let us go to yon hotel, and buy our dinner for a change, and eat it in surroundings strange." Then Susan Belle puts on a smile, and sings around the coop awhile, and bids farewell to cares that cark, and says she's happy as a lark. Some small attentions, such as these, the jaded frau are bound to please. They lift a burden from her mind, and they relieve the weary grind. I know so many working wives who might have sunshine in their lives, if their Old Men would only say, "You've had a hard and dreary day, so let us go, on eager feet, and see the dogfight down the street."



THE TATTLER

Pessimists are saying that chunk of the middle western heat is on its way to the Willamette valley.

O, you bathing beach!

The home team won another game yesterday, and the flop of the pennant becomes more audible to the naked ear.

Temporary widowers are numerous in town. "Mother" and the youngsters are enjoying the annual family vacation.

The recently arrived easterner who has remarked that it looks like early fall is respectfully informed that there ain't no such animal in these parts.

Not a loganberry will be left on the vines this season when the picking is over.

An idiot in East Salem meekly inquired whether anybody has tried making loganberry seeds into pies.

Another prospect for a bit of easy money went glimmering in the circuit court Saturday.

Home-made apples are beginning to appear in the markets.

Peaches are ripe.

Turner has ceased to be a feature of the daily war news.

The American soldier is the best fed in the world. This statement means a whole lot more to Salem folks than it did a few months ago.

COURT HOUSE NEWS

No more jury work will be done in Department 1 of the circuit court until October.

The July term of court came to an end Saturday with the case of E. H. Spranger of Portland vs. E. S. Budlong, as street commissioner of the city of Salem, an action to recover damages for injuries alleged to have been received by the plaintiff because of a defective sidewalk. The jury in this case returned a verdict for the defendant.

With the exception of J. T. Cooper, Leslie O. Hunter and J. H. Dunlap, who were retained for possible vacancies on the grand jury, all the jurors have been discharged.

Judge Kelly will hold court in Albany next week.

Lewis Reed, who was arraigned before Judge Kelly Saturday to answer to the charge of stealing an automobile from parties at Aurora, changed his plea of not guilty to that of guilty, and was sentenced to from one to ten years in the penitentiary and was then paroled. Reed has been in the county jail since April.

Stating that they were living together when the case was filed and had been living together since and that all difficulties have been condoned by these facts, the defendant in the divorce suit of Winwood Robins vs. Irene Rita Robins has filed a motion for dismissal.

An action has been instituted by Jennie E. Taylor for the restoration of title to 164 acres of land in Marion county. She alleges that E. R. Cochrene, to whom the land was sold, has failed to live up to the contract made when the land was sold.

Hearing of the final account of Julian Provost, administrator of the estate of Caroline Provost, will be held by the county court September 2.

Judgment for \$1150 is given the Star Land company against Katie Holmes and J. P. Holmes by a decree entered by Judge Galloway Saturday.

Suit has been filed in the circuit court by the First National Bank of Alhambra, California, to collect from W. A. Sippell, F. O. Sippell and Lucy Deneer the sum of \$2700 with interest at 7 per cent from November 30, 1912.

The case of Patrick Gowan vs. Mary Pulasky et al has been settled out of court.

Anna Simmons, administratrix of the estate of J. D. Simmons, filed a final report with the county court Saturday.

Fred J. Siewert, executor of the will of the late Daniel A. Siewert, has petitioned the county court to issue an order setting aside \$1000 for the maintenance of the widow of the deceased.

ALL WRONG

The Mistake is Made by Many Salem Citizens.

Look for the cause of headache. To be cured you must know the cause.

If it's weak kidneys you must set the kidneys working right. A Salem resident tells you how.

Mrs. M. B. Churchhill, 705 Belmont street, Salem, says: "Three years ago I was down in bed for a week with my back. I couldn't get up or down without assistance and my back felt weak and lame. I was sick all over. Hearing so many recommend Dean's Kidney Pills, I sent for a box and had taken only a few doses when I felt better. Two boxes stopped the trouble and in every way I feel like a different person."

Price 50c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Dean's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Churchill had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

Look Over This Paper

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This bank offers you an opportunity to save money and increase your buying power.

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It helps you to resist ill-advised spending, and develops instincts which will enable you to turn your savings into remunerative channels.

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LITTLE TALKS ON THRIFT

By S. W. STRAUS
President American Society for Thrift



When the subject of teaching thrift to children in the public schools has been considered it has been assumed that almost the only way it could be done was through the establishment of school savings banks, but R. H. Wilson, superintendent of the State of Oklahoma has a very practical suggestion which has met with the approval of his co-workers. Agriculture is taught in the high schools of that state, and it is his idea to have the teacher of agriculture or duty during the summer vacation months supervise the school gardens and the work done by boys on vacant lots and truck patches—boys who would be idle during this time and boys who want to make money. He suggests that the citizens should be impressed into encouraging the boys to use vacant lots for truck patches in this way and to give them first consideration when buying produce, also that they establish canneries where the boys will be able to can their produce until they can dispose of it at a profit.

Mr. Wilson has suggested to the boards of education in Oklahoma that they adopt his plan and give boys and girls a chance to use their time profitably and impress upon their minds that they ought to make the money that they spend. These suggestions would be practical for any state. The plan would not only teach a boy the value of time—how to be thrifty, but would also make him industrious and saving.

Fifty thousand families in New York City last year received aid from six of the largest charitable societies of that municipality, and the investigators for the societies show that thriftless habits were the cause of most of the distress and the same families are annually the recipients of charity. For shiftless parents and shiftless homes destroy all ambition and do not beget an independence in the children that would make them self-reliant, when they are able to work.

It is well known by those who have made the subject the matter of investigation that although at the age of 45 fully 80 per cent of men are established in whatever pursuit they follow, and are in receipt of incomes in excess of their expenditures, at the age of 60 it has been found that 95 per cent have receded in their financial independence and are dependent on their daily earnings or upon their children for support. All this is the result of failure to take into account the fact: "There can be no profit if the outlay exceeds it."

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