

Editorial Page of The Capital Journal

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ONLY ONE SOLUTION, ADOPT AMENDMENT

There are two classes of property owners in Salem who are deeply interested in having the proposed amendments passed. One is that which owns property on paved streets, and the other is the property owners on unpaved streets. If the amendments are not passed those owning property on the improved streets and who have paid for the same, will be called upon, in addition to paying for their own improvements to pay for those of some others. Having paid for their own improvements it is evidently unjust to ask them to pay for those of someone else.

The property owners on unpaved streets, if the amendments are not passed, will have to pay for others' having their property improved with no chance of having others pay for improvements in front of their property. This because there are improvements already made which have not been paid for by the owners, but which the city is responsible for. If the amendments are not passed this indebtedness can never be collected, and the result will be the city at large will have to pay. After this is paid by taxation there will be no more improvements made, and those owning property on unpaved streets will be unable to have any improvements made unless they pay the cash in advance. The banks have refused to put up any more money under the Bancroft act, and very properly so, for while the bonds are a good investment, the banks do not want to, and will not become parties to saddling an unjust debt on the city.

There are some who are opposed to the amendments because they believe if they are not passed the proposition to have the city bond itself for paying the entire cost of the paving and returning the money to those who have paid together with interest on the same since the date of payment, will be passed. This would prove a deadly blow to the city for it would bond it to its limit, and at the same time increase taxes to such an extent as to be practically confiscatory. It would cost those who have paid more than to let the matter stand as it is, because the increased taxes would soon eat up the little money returned, and at the same time depreciate the values of their properties far more than the cost of the street paving. At the same time this would compel those living on unpaved streets to pay for paving other streets while being denied the privilege of having their own streets paved. There would be no more street improvement because there would be no more money for the purpose. Long before the bonds could be paid off, the streets at present improved, would have their pavements worn out, and they could never be re-paid for by that time the people owning property on unpaved streets would have had a sufficiency of being taxed to improve streets for others, and would vote solidly against it.

There is only one solution to the question and that is to adopt all three amendments, as the three are necessary, each to the other. There is one other solution too, but it is a drastic one, and will be mentioned later.

The United States senate is a calamitous example of how not to do it. No matter what the issue these wise ones divide and argue. Some of the statements credited to them would be a disgrace to the mentality of a six year old kindergarten class. The house with many times the membership of the senate, and that much more cumbersome, does business in half the time. Just now it is taking a recess of two days each week to allow the senate to catch up with it in its work. It belongs in the megatherium and pterodactyl age being thoroughly fossilized, though unfortunately the species is not extinct. Another session like the present one and it is likely to become so.

The little town of Plains in West Virginia holds the banner for Red Cross giving. Her allotment was \$1,000 and she raised \$15,000. In this state Sherman and Wasco counties, both in one district, won the pennant, subscribing more than four times their allotment, which was \$15,000 and the amount given was above \$60,000.

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TRANACT A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS
SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

OREGON'S SPLENDID SHOWING

Oregon has established a new record that belongs in the same class with those she made in her registration, enlistments and liberty bond subscriptions. With an allotment of \$602,500 for the Red Cross she has dug down into her pockets and subscribed considerably more than a million. The estimates last night were a few thousands above the million mark, but there are still many districts whose returns are incomplete and some that have not reported. With these the grand total may run well toward \$1,100,000. This is indeed a remarkable showing, for Oregon has been hurt by the war rather than helped, financially. It is only now that the building of wooden ships gives an impetus to business in the Northwest that she is drawing any benefits whatever from the war except the increased price of wheat this year. On the other hand the closing of the Panama canal, and the scarcity of ships due to the war, have hurt her badly shutting off her lumber trade and closing down her mills, and lumber is the state's greatest industry. It speaks well for her loyalty and the great heartedness of her people, that despite all the backsets she has had since the war began, she was well up to the front in her subscriptions for the benefit of the soldiers of mercy.

The Red Cross campaign in this city ends tonight with a banquet to the ten teams and others at headquarters who devoted their time and energies to raising Salem's and the country's share of the funds. It is an appropriate ending of more than a week's strenuous work, and it is hoped that one and all will have appetites suited to the occasion. There is one feature about this campaign not foreseen, but which is none the less important on that account, and that is the get-together spirit it has engendered. Businessmen who have heretofore had only a speaking acquaintance have come together and found what good fellows the others are. It has stirred civic pride and evolved mutual respect and confidence. Its effects will be seen hereafter in efficient team work whenever the needs of the city require it. It has been of inestimable benefit in that direction, and will be worth in time, more than the whole amount subscribed.

According to the statement of C. M. Moderwell, Chicago member of the coal committee of the National council of defense, the coal operators are "bilking the consumers." He states the cost of producing coal has increased only fifty cents a ton and the operators are increasing the price \$2.50 to \$5.00 a ton. One of them stated the profits had been light for some years, and impudently asked the committee if it did not think the operators had a right to get even now and make up for former small profits? He was told by Senator Cummins that the committee did not so consider it. This is not the only business that is taking advantage of the war to double their profits, and it emphasizes the necessity of the government taking charge of, or at least regulating prices of this as well as many other commodities.

It is a matter of congratulation that those Chinese gunmen were arrested at the Multnomah county court house before they accomplished their purpose of killing Judge Gatens and Dan Malarkey. However, had they succeeded, there would be little left of Portland's Chinatown by now. The attempt shows how little respect the Chinks have for American laws, and also how little they understand the temperament of the American people.

The Oregonian paragrapher asks: "Why does a man save empty whiskey bottles?" Possibly to aid fond memory in bringing again the light of other days around him. By the way is there anyone saving empty whiskey bottles in Oregon now?

Rippling Rhymes

by Walt Mason

THE GERMAN SOLDIER
I'd hate to be a German, and fight for Kaiser Bill, unable to determine why I went forth to kill. The Frenchman and the Briton have causes fine and high, and when a foe they've smitten, they know the reason why. The Russian and the Roman, the Belgian and the Serb, shoot up the armored foeman autocracy to curb. For freedom men are fighting on Europe's blood drenched lands; the German, at this writing, for ancient error stands. The kaiser says, "Go, slaughter, go, butcher, till you die, make men's blood run like water, and do not ask me why. Go, vassals, serfs, and visit my wrath on all my foes; I am the great What-is-it, and what I tell you goes. Don't ask me questions silly, don't prate of wrong or right; I'm the anointed Willie, who bids you go and fight. I am the sun in heaven, I am the moon and stars; to me alone is given the heart and front of Mars. And when I bid you wallow in blood up to your ears, my dictum you must follow! Hoch, Deutschland und zwei biere!" And so, like driven cattle, the Germans go to war, and wonder, as they battle, what they are bleeding for.



While the selective draft will soon be in full operation it is pleasing to note that, in round numbers, half a million have enlisted in some branch of the American service, within the past three months. This is an army equaling in numbers that purposed to be raised by draft. Of these 150,000 have joined the regular army, 110,000 the national guard, 13,000 the marine corps, and 60,000 the navy. Thousands enlisted in the engineers and special branches, making a grand total of approximately 500,000. The enlistments still go on and this week is set aside by the president as "recruiting week," in which an effort will be made to add 70,000 to the regular army. In the light of results in registration, liberty bond sales, and the Red Cross campaign, it is more than probable the 70,000 recruits will be secured. Uncle Sam's boys have a habit of doing whatever their Uncle calls on them for.

There are some tender hearted old fossils in the United States senate that can find as many reasons for anything they want—or don't, as a Southern Pacific magnate. Yesterday in discussing the proposal to prohibit the making of spirituous or malt liquors from any foodstuffs some of them suddenly awoke to the fact that this would interfere with the making of extracts, and the poor little children could not get lemon flavoring in their candies and ice cream. This is one of the cases where the "sins of the father are visited on the children."

Equal suffrage is taken as a matter of course by everybody in Russia. One woman being asked by Mr. Shepherd, the United States correspondent at Petrograd if she believed women should vote replied: "Why not? We have fought by the side of the soldiers and we have worked at home to help them, we have even taken our full part in such assassinations as were necessary." That ought to settle the question for all time.

Down along the Colorado river great dams have been built in order to secure water for irrigation. Now owing to floods in that stream these dams are being blown out to prevent the farms being inundated. This is of a piece with the proverb that "It never rains but to pours."

Sunday a mob of whitemen at Galveston, Texas, took Henry Sawyer, a mulatto, from jail, having overpowered the officers, and hanged him. His offense was assaulting a white woman. While this story appeared in the dispatches yesterday as news, it can hardly be considered that in the south, but should rather be classed as routine work.

Robinson, T. B.	5.00
Rodgers, C. P.	5.00
Roland, Carrie	8.00
Rose, Mrs. Louise M.	2.00
Rosebaugh, Arthur	1.00
Rosebaugh, Ruth	2.00
Rosebaugh, W. W.	4.00
Ross, Clifton	5.00
Ross, Clarence D.	5.00
Roth, Albert	4.00
Ross, J. B.	5.00
Roy, H. A.	1.50
Royal, C. F.	1.00
Royal, Mrs. E. A.	10.00
Rush, C. M.	1.00
Ryan, Jack	1.00
Ryan, Mabel A.	10.00
St. Clair, C. P.	4.00
Sackett, C. B.	2.50
Salem Bank of Commerce	105.00
Salem Fruit Union	25.00
Salem Fruit Co.	20.00
Salem Laundry	20.00
Salem Woolen Mill Store	100.00
Sargent, S. G.	50.00
Sasser, Arthur	2.50
Sander, Geo. H.	1.00
Savage, Mark H. and Sarah B.	5.00
Savage, N. S.	10.00

My Husband and I
By Jane Phelps

CHRISTMAS PLANS
CHAPTER LXXXI
The next day we were pretty tired, and I had a slight headache. Tom said it was from the smoke, as I had taken nothing to drink but coffee. So after I left for the office Peggy got a pencil and paper and sat down to plan for Christmas.
"One spends so much less money, and gets better results if a list is made. When I start out without one I always buy the wrong thing or pay too much for it," she said.
"Oh, I hate the holidays!" I exclaimed. "If I were rich and could make everyone lovely presents I should love it; but now it is an awful bore and I shall be glad when it is all over." I did not fool Peggy however, that with the debts hanging over me I would have no money to spend, and that I was worrying about it.
"We must have a tree for little Tom," she said, "then it will seem real Christmas. I think the day was intended for children anyway, but we grown ups had to butt in."
"I do too!" I agreed, and I wish the children were the only ones allowed to receive presents. This giving to people because you feel you must is an awful bore, and expensive.
"I know, but what can we do about it?" Peggy laughed. "Then, didn't we have a dandy time last night? Sue? wouldn't have missed it for anything."
"Neither would I, but what do you suppose your mother or mine would have said could they have seen all those women smoking?"
"They'd never recover from the shock. I'll tell you something Sue, I tried to smoke once and it made me sneeze and cough so I had to give it up. If I hadn't been afraid it would have made me sick, I would have tried again last night."
"You're more of a sport than I am, I guess," I admitted, but without jealousy. Carol Blacklock had said my naïveté, which to me meant my ignorance, was my attraction.
A Warning Sneeze
About six o'clock that afternoon I was in Peggy's room, the door ajar, I had said nothing to her about lending me the twenty five dollars. Something brought it to my mind, and I thought her effusively.
"You better owe me than the butcher," she said laughing. "At least won't you pay me over the telephone?"
"Wasn't he awful?" I exclaimed. "I didn't know what to say to him. Tom thinks I can pay all the house bills with what he gives me. Perhaps I could if I didn't keep using the money for other things." I explained rather shamefacedly. "You have no idea how money goes in New York City."
"It goes fast enough anywhere," she returned, and just then Tom sneezed. We had not heard him come in, but the sneeze was suspiciously near the door.
"That you Tom?" I called, trying to speak naturally.
"Yes. Come here, Sue, I want to talk to you a minute."
He led the way into the living room and closed the door.
"Now tell me what all this talk about the butcher and being sneezed over the telephone means?" he said sternly.
"Why—I—"
"Don't precavitate! Tell me just what it means!" Tom interrupted my stammering attempt to explain.
A Quarrel
"I owed the butcher a little bill, and he called up and asked me for it!" I said desperately.
"I thought that when I raised your allowance I told you not to run any bills. Where did you get the money to pay him, and how much was it?" I did not dare to tell an untruth; I did not know what he had overheard.
"It was thirty dollar, and I borrowed twenty five from Peggy!"
"Thirty dollars! A butcher bill for that amount? I never heard of such a thing, how long has it been running?"
"Oh not long. When I had a little to spare I gave it to him."
"Throwing a sop to Cerberus!" he said sarcastically. I had no idea what he meant, so said nothing. Then, "How do you propose to pay Peggy?"
"I don't know—I hadn't thought!" and the tears I had so far kept back flowed freely.
"Have you no idea of what is proper and right, Sue? You not only deceive me, and keep a man who needs his money waiting; but you borrow from a goose. I had put away a little for us to spend for Christmas presents. I will give it to you to pay Peggy, and we will make no gifts this year," and turning he left me.
I bashed my eyes, and when we all met at dinner, no one would have known that I was almost hating Tom; that he was bitterly censuring me for what I had done. "What would he say if he knew all I owed?"
(Tomorrow—Bible's attractive advertisement.)