## $=$ Editorial Page of The Capital Journal

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## WOULD HAVE KAISER IN OREGON

When a majority of the nations of the world are war against autocracy and the things for which it stand it seems strange that the money of the taxpayers of Ore gon should be spent in devising a plan for an autocrati form of government in this state
But that is what is going on now by the commission appointed by Governor Withycombe to make an investigation of offices, departments and boards and commis ions and submit to the next legislature "recommenda tions as to consolidation, economy and efficiency."
This commission has employed, at the expense of th state, an Illinois professor to come to Oregon and draf This outline is now running in the direction of autocracy The plan is to take from the people as much power as possible and transfer it to the governor, who will be in possible and transfer it to surround himself with a political machine that will put him in a class with the kaiser.
It is proposed to abolish all elective offices, except the ffices of governor, secretary of state and state treasure and make them appointive by the governor. And the only reason for conceding that the offices of secretary o state and state treasurer should remain elective is that the constitution makes them so.

With one sweep of the hand, this so-called consolida tion commission would like to brush away all the author ity possessed by the people of Oregon to choose their own public officials and substitute therefore an autecrat, out of whose hands public officials must eat or lose their
That must appeal to Oregonians, the trail blazers in rue democracy.
An autocracy may appeal to such men as Herman Von
Borstel and Charles Rudeen, two of the Borstel and Charles Rudeen, two of the leading spirits the front line trenches in many bitter fights before they won the full right to govern themselves are not going to sit idly by and see a kaiser put upon a throne in a state in sit idly by and see a kaiser put
which they possess the ballot.
Governor Withycombe may approve of gathering all Governor Withycombe may approve of gathering all
this power unto himself, but if so he is out of touch with the sentiment of the people of Oregon toward autocracy.

State Food Administrator Ayer announces that the people of Oregon can, on and after July 5, again purchase Wheat flour on a fifty-fifty basis with substitutes, As all cleaned out, the mystery is where the flour is to come from that can be purchased on that date. It cannot be
possible that while consumers were turning back their surplus flour that the mills of the state were loaded up with wheat or flour. Whence, then, the flour Mr. Aye says the retailers can buy from the wholesalers or the
mills upon showing a certificate as to the amount sold in previous months?

In Idaho politics are placed above patriotism. Both the The democrats side-stepped the proposition but the The democrats side-stepped the proposition, but the recipal plank of the Non-Partisans, which is swallowed as state of the development of the unused waterpower, and in order that the same may be done we declare for the submission to the people of the necessary amendment to the state constitution." The republicans are out, and are hungering for public pap.

The cherry crop turned out better than was gxpected, and besides, owing to the response to the call for help, can handle and there is plenty for home use. The outlopk or a big prune yield is good, but there will be sugar Salem.

## LADD \& BUSH, Bankers

ALL THE THIRD LBERTY BONDS ARE NOW HERE.

THOSE INTERESTED PLEASE CALL TT THE BANK

## RED TAPE OFFICLALS BUSY

The board of examiners at Camp Lewis and the local hoards in Oregon seem to be far apart in their ideas of
the fitness of the men drafted and passed by the local the fitness of the men drafted and passed by the local
boards. It seems some 200 of those passed by the local boards. It seems some 200 of those passed by the local If the reports coming from the camp are correct, the amp board is decidedly "finicky" as to the standard to be rejected because he was a sixteenth of an inch being height. Another was sent home because he had a perforation in one ear. It is fair to presume that before the war is ended the boards will not be so particular. The sixteenth of an inch shortage in height is apparently not nearly so great a shortage as the members of the camp board show in their individual mentalities. The perforation of an ear is not nearly as serious as a punctured intelleet, even though the latter belongs to a physician. If this kind of sorting is to be done, who knows but the esthetic ex
aminer's will be objecting to some husky Oregonian b cause the color of his eyes does not correspond with his hair according to the examiners' ideas, or he may have
more freckles on one side of his nose than on the other and thus disturb the balance and poise of him. It is permissible to suppose that occasionally the local board may have overlooked something the camp board dis-
covered, but that there are 200 such cases is, to put it mildly, extremely improbable. It would seem that some red tape expert fresh from Washington, who got a job hrough family connection has arrived at camp and is making his opinions felt. Apparently a board of ex-
aminers for the Camp Lewis board of that kind is badly aminers
needed.

Jeremiah O'Leary, the Irishman with a Prussian thinkank, who was recently arrested in Vancouver and taken ast for trial, has written an alleged poem on "The Star
of the West," in which he asks it to make its call and lure of the West," in which he asks it to make its call and lure rying Jeremiah, and if the charges against him should by any chance fall down, the government can prosecute him or his "pome." It sure is a crime.

An airplane in:ented by a member of the United States Signal corps, has been tried out in Portland and is proighter and simpler, and that if subsequent tests sho up as well a factory with a capacity of 100 machines a day will be erected in Portland. It is claimed for it that a machine can be turned out complete the same day work begins on it.
That German offensive promised for the past two weeks has not yet materialized. Perhaps results in Italy However the Prussian is offensive enough when he is doing nothing.
Now that the thrift stamp drive is about over, the next hing will be the completion of the steel bridge and the big celebraiton. That is one of the coming events that
will not cost much and that will bring immediate returns.
Those unkind Italians not satisfied with drubbing the Austrians are doing it some more, rubbing salt in the un-
healed wounds. However in war it is the correct thing the kiek the other fellow after he is down.
Salem is maintaining its reputation as the greatest fruit center in the Northwest. Probably close to a
thousand men and women are at work now in its caneries, evaporators and juice plants.
Eugene V. Debs, formerly a decently respectable cit Follette level. Yesterday he was arrested for seditiou terances.

## Rippling Rhymes

BUSY ANIMALS

The hens are laying luscious fruit, and cackle in their pride; they seem to knov that from the Teut ihey'll help to take the hide. My Korking hens, in other days, were
rather stern and dour; but now whene'er a chicken lays, she cackies by the hour. My old red cow's as the way she's turning out the milk would drive a man to drink. stands around and chews her cud, until th milking's done, and seems to say, "This foaming flood will help to can the Hun." It may be I imagine it, but Dobbin seems t know; he 'pulls up harder on the bit, he's always keen to go. I hitch him to my one-hoss plow, and s he does his trick, methinks he says, "I'm striving now to queer the Prussian hick." This Dobbin horse was wont to balk before we drew the sword, and I would pelt
him with a rock and lam him with \% board. It may be I imagine things, but let us hope I'm right; we'll sure
spoil the kraut-fed kings, if all the dumb brutes fight.


## Dorothy Dalton

 A SCATHING INDICTMEN OF THE MORALS OF NEW
YORK'S FOUR HUNDRED.

## Fatty Arbuckle

"OUT WEST"
YOU'LL LIKL:
COME
The OREGON

YOUR HEALTH


CAPTIAL JOURNAL WANT ADS BRIMG YOU RESUITS.

