## $=$ Editorial Page of The Capital Journal

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 prosperity due next month.All winter and spring business prophets have been forecasting good times to come throughout the entire country "belore long" or "when the reconstruction per-
iod is over." Now comes one of them and assigns a definiod is over." Now comes one of them and assigns a defin-
ite date to the expected boom. He is Richard Spillane, a respossible writer on business and finance, and he says
the stage is now all set and the actors are ready for a the stage is now all set and the actors are ready for a
great revival of the wonder play, "Prosperity," and it is to open in May.
"Nothing but a wholly unexpected and malign delopment can postpone it," he says.
He finds signs pointing to a
He finds signs pointing to a flood of business for the naces and mills. There will be heavy demand equally at home and abroad. The farm industry, bigger still, and still more promising; the wheat crop will be "monumen-
tal", and the money return to the producers "unparallel tal", and the money return to the producers "unparallelled," and that money will circulate through th
business system giving life to every part of it.
With steel and agriculture prosperous, everything
will follow. Builders have been hesitant, but architects will foilow. Builders nave been hesitant, but architects and engineers have been busier than ever with their
plans, and construction along many lines will soon start plans, a rush.

> The signing of the peace treaty, which now se

stined to occur in May, will be the "start" signal.
ent problem. This expert gives it as his sober judgment problem. This expert gives it as his sober judg-
ment that "it will not be surprising, if within the next three months, the practical trouble in America should be the shortage of labor."

## A CONSTRUCTIVE PUNISHMENT.

A California wrong-doer has recently been sentenced to five years of good ctizenship, which is another way
of saying he has been put on probation. The judge decided in favor of leniency because the offender, through all his shiftless wandorings and crimes, never failed to
provide for his aged and dependent mother. That tie looked like one which might lead him back to a usefull,
law-abiding life. law-abiding life.
ties in which his homis man must not leave the two counassociations with the evil companions under whose influence he had fallen; he must not drink, gamble or in
any way indulye in ayoidable idleness, any way indulge in avoidable idieness
 about the sentence is that the man must advance siss out of his first earnings in a steady job to be hedi ns part of a
reward for his apprehension should he fail to live up to


## RIPPLING RHYMES

By Walt Mason

## OUR GOVERNMENT

Our old government's respected by all people who are gain, and the fellow who is thrifty may neck deep in courfort wade, have possessions rich and nifty, and enjoy
them undismayed. There's no country short of heaven them undismayed. There's no country short of heaven
with a government so slick that it has not fifty-seven kinds of flaws for fools to pick. And there'll never be a nation with a government great that it gets no condemnation from the pessimistic skate. Here the chap who's law abiding has no fetters on his shank; in his jitney he
goess riding, taking bundles to the bank. While he per goes riding, taking, bundles to the bank. While he pays
his yearly taxes he's secure in all he owns, and he needs no battle axes to protect his stack of bones. So I think the noisy rotters who don't like our kaind of rule, should
be shipped across the waters till their fevered spirits cool. In the olden times enchanted we could laugh at all their froth; in the olden times they ranted, but they
couldn't cut a swath. Now we know there's deadly danger in the rotter's fierce harangue; therefore let us swat the stranger who talks treason to the gang.


## his probati isdiction.

 If the man has the good stuff in him on which th judge is counting, this unusual sentence offers him everychance to make good. After five years of honest induschance to make good. After five years of honest, indus-
trious living he ought to have diseovered how much haptrious living he ought to have diseovered how much hapHe will be further along on the road to self-respecting independence thar he would have been if he had served prison term, and he will have cost the state practically nothing for his keep and guarding.

Joseph R. Bowles, president of the Northwest Stee Company, of Portland, is in possession of a full-size grouch. He told a conference of shipbuilders, in that city
according to the Oregonian, that the Portland plant would probably have to shut down next October, throwing many men out of employment, unless President Wilson
took an interest in keeping the mgoing, and this he problahly would not do until arter the peace treaty had been signoed. Bowles, therefore, contended that all the blame - and Mr. Bowles and other beneficiaries of the gigantic shipbuilding graft wond have to engage in some legitimate business or work. Mr. Bowles and his kind profess to be-
lieve that the government ought to keep up the shipvard lieve that the government ought to keep up the shipyard
graft, where men are overpaid and at the same time taught to shirk, and material is bought for fabulous prices in order that the builders' 10 per cent profits, guaranteed by the government, may grow beyond all reason. Bowles naturally wants that system continued, and the Oregonian, which demands investigation of all other branches
of war work, is afraid to have the probe directed toward the greatest graft of all-..the shipyards of Portland and other northwest cities. If shipbuilding is to continue it ought to be as a legitimate industry the workers who dodged into it to escape the draft, as wem as the capial ought to be driven out of it. The shipyards are the blackest spote in the war recard of this country.

A Seattle local of the boilermakers union has decided to agitate for a six-hour day in the shipyards. Like as get irksome, but we can well imagine that the Seattle employers will relieve them of that responsibility about the time the proposed "agitation" starts...

It appears that "booze" is not the only thing that doe not mix well with gasoline. A party of young joyrider Sunday ran down and killed an aged man near Tigard because the driver was paying more attention to the gir beside him than to the road ahead.

The Oregoniaff asserts that the Capital Journal is criticising that paper and Senator Chamberlain. Dont that pair look queer yoked up together in politics?

Well, the Monroe Doctrine has been adopted by the League, but the Japanese orphan seems to have few friends.

The former kaiser's expenses are now said to be about $\$ 1000$ a week. Not heavy-as compared with what he has亚
Korea wishes to be known as a Christian nation, but ism.

Have you noticed that the Saar valley is already be-
THE PROMOTER'S WIFE BY JANE PHELPS







Neerer has shere been a dram like thit-a pieture that thrilld you, hear and soul-a mirity y tory of the lore that pasect han umdortandiang


## DOROTHY PHILLIPS

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