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THE DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

Is the only newspaper in Salem whose circulation is guaranteed by the Audit Bureau of Circulations

READY FOR THE BUDGET.

Now that congress is in session once more, there is a little matter which wise tax-payers will develop a sincere interest in if they make the most of their opportunity. The psychological moment for the working out and putting across of budget system for government finances seems to have arrived.

Practically everybody is in favor of the plan. President Wilson has declared for it. Former President Taft favors it. The last two chairmen of the appropriations committee favored it. Leaders of the new senate are said to be urging a national budget system, and the new speaker of the house is on that side of the argument.

Students of finance and government have demanded something of the kind for years. It is a theory which has been tested, practically. Even a poor budget system would work so much better than the present hit and miss method that one wonders why we have neglected it so long.

The answer is found in the indifference of voters and tax-payers. These worthies have remained stupidly unconcerned while government expenditures have soared. Taxes are necessarily higher than ever, and still the old wasteful system runs its extravagant course through public funds.

There is no general opposition to the budget system—only this large public indifference. Now is the time for people who really are the government to brace up and take an interest in their business. Just as soon as they do, they can and will have the budget system.

GERMAN SORROW.

Germany has had a week of sorrow. "In deep distress and weighted down by care," announced the Imperial Ministry at Weimar, "the German people has waited through the months of the armistice for the peace conditions. Their publication has brought the bitterest disappointment and unspeakable grief to the entire people. A public expression ought to be given those feelings by all Germans.

"The Imperial government requests that the free states have public amusements suspended for a week, and allow in the theaters only such productions as correspond to the seriousness of these grievous days."

Accordingly the people stopped dancing and carousing, even in Berlin, and staged the desired exhibition of national sorrow.

It was appropriate to be sure. The Allies' terms were quite severe enough to warrant the Germans setting in

RIPPLING RHYMES

By Walt Mason

THE BORROWER.

I used to have a host of friends, but now I walk alone; a cheerless sky above me bends, my heart feels like a stone. I once had friends in hut and hall, in mansion and in shack; I borrowed coin from one and all, and failed to hand it back; and no pleasant smiles, I see, I've won such punk renown; no window has a light for me, in all the clammy town. I once was welcome in the homes of sages and of seers, and there I borrowed treasured tomes, and kept them seven years. And now the sages view my face with sorrow and disdain, and seers remark I ought to chase myself into a drain. I borrowed Thompson's loving cup, and Jackson's safety shears, and Hiram Bostwick's setter pup, and Watson's brindled steers. I borrowed Wilson's fountain pen, the best in all the grad; I borrowed Simpson's setting hen, and Eckdall's liver pad. I borrowed this, I borrowed that, from every one I knew, a squirt gun and a stovepipe hat, and then an oyster stew. And now I go my way alone, devoid of joy and mirth, and neighbors say they'd give a bone if I'd fall off the earth. Light criticisms men will pass on those who boldly steal; but for the borrower, alas, no sympathy they feel.

sackcloth and ashes, as that other "chosen race" did at the time of the Babylonian captivity. But according to ordinary notion, it is somewhat late for such demonstrations.

Germany ought to have celebrated that week of mourning five years ago, when her armies invaded Belgium and all Germany was singing and harraging. She might have done likewise four years ago, when the Lusitania was sunk, instead of applauding, and giving her school children a holiday.

And even now her mourning lacks one important element. There is grief but no repentance.

The Armenians seem more anxious than anything else to get the Turks where they can maltreat and massacre them—in order to get even. As a matter of fact most persons who have traveled through that benighted part of the world have always expressed more regard for the Turks than for the Armenians. The latter are Christians only in name and are probably as cruel, treacherous and dishonest as any oriental race of the present time. Now that the war is over, although they had made a separate treaty with Germany and Turkey by which they secured their independence, the Armenians are now demanding of the peace conference a vast expanse of territory that in reality includes but few of their own people among the inhabitants. The peace conference is not likely to grant their demands.

Salem is a beautiful city and has a wide reputation for the neatness of its lawns and cleanliness of its broad streets. Just at this time, however, there are too many places where the grass should be cut in parkings and on vacant lots, giving many parts of the city a ragged, unkempt look. This condition should not be allowed to exist and officials should be vigilant in requiring property owners to keep up their places, since nothing so enhances property values, or does more to attract home-seekers, than civic pride that keeps the lawns smooth and green and the parkings free of unsightly weeds and grass.

Somebody announces that the tobacco smoked in this country produces 54,000,000 pounds of potash, which if utilized as fertilizer would be worth \$50,000,000. Good argument for smoking while you work your Victory garden.

The head of the Prussian delegation meant no discourtesy by delivering his speech sitting instead of standing. He didn't dare let anybody see how shaky his knees were.

THE PROMOTER'S WIFE

BY JANE PHELPS

AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR.

I had played but a short time before the bell rang, and Mr. Frederick's card was brought to me. I was calmer, Music always soothed me, so I asked aunt to receive him, telling her I would be down in a moment. I could not forget that this man, kindly, clever, if a bit unorthodox at times, cared for me. Woman-like I wished to appear to advantage to him even while I thought of him only as my very good friend.

I smoothed my hair, just touched my pale cheeks with rouge and powder, then joined him and aunt.

"I heard you playing; do not let me interrupt you," he said after greeting me warmly. "I am very fond of music although I know nothing about it—I simply know when I like it."

"You probably are a better judge than most people who claim to know," I said lightly. "I was playing in the dark. Mr. Forbes is out, and so aunt and I were amusing ourselves."

"I had hoped to find him at home," I sensed an undertone of disappointment in his voice and felt anxious at once. What was it to do to Aunt? I so wished he would tell me. Perhaps he would if I tactfully led up to it.

"Aunt has been trying to impress Neil with his duty to himself. That he really does wrong to attend to business in the evening. She hasn't yet been successful, however, as his absence shows."

"It is too bad that we men have that habit," he turned to aunt. "But sometimes it seems necessary. There is so much competition now-a-days, and so

REAL WONDER WORKER FOR WRINKLED FACES

Those who have tried all sorts of so-called "wrinkle removers" in a vain effort to lose those unwelcome traces of age, illness or worry, can scarcely find words to express their delight with the wonderful axolite formula, once they have given it a trial. The success of this method is due not alone to its marvelous effectiveness—upon the deepest lines and crowfeet, as well as upon the very fine ones—but also to its astonishingly quick action and its entire harmlessness. Its simplicity is another commendable feature, for one need only dissolve an ounce of powdered axolite in a half pint witch hazel, and bathe the face in this solution. At once a remarkable transformation is beheld.

It is not only the effect on wrinkles and creases that is so noticeable, but facial contour is remarkably improved and the face looks much younger. One should be sure to ask the druggist for the powdered axolite. The lotion, being so refreshing, is particularly grateful to tired faces.

often men come from a distance and have to make the most of their time. That is especially so in New York with big concerns, or with men of large interests. I guess it does make it sort of lonesome for the women folks," he added in his kindly way, "but most of them are willing to put up with it, if it means more money."

"All women are not mercenary, Mr. Frederick," aunt returned in her most severe manner.

"No indeed! many of them not enough so. But it costs a lot of money to live in New York—to live well. It keeps men bustling pretty lively, I often think how lucky I am not to have to live here. It's a great town all right—the greatest in the world. Fine to come to and let off steam. But after a few days of it I am ready for my little western town, where a man can wear a soft shirt, and let his manner correspond with his shirt. Here every one seems to be starched up, all glossy and shiny on the outside anyway. A bit uncomfortable for some of us who are used to being well—just sort of natural human being without the frills."

"But society calls for form and for manners. I should think those western mining towns would be, well, rather demoralizing," aunt replied. I could see she did not understand at all Mr. Frederick's simile, or his point of view. She was most conventional in all her ideas and actions.

"Not at all dear madam! sometimes I think they bring out the very best there is in a man—a real man. The one who becomes demoralized in a mining town would become equally so in New York or any other place. Water seeks its level you know. I am a great believer in the theory that often hard knocks in the beginning of a career bring out the best there is in a man, raw places of the world make men soft."

I loved to hear him talk, to watch the play of expression on his strong face. But just then I was more interested in knowing what brought him, than in hearing him discuss theories with aunt. So I interrupted.

"Have you seen Mr. Scott lately?" I would find out if he had changed his mind and been with Neil the night before.

"No, not for a few days. Scott is a good sort, common, perhaps, and a bit vulgar sometimes," with a depreciating glance at aunt, "but honest all the way through."

"Yes, I have heard you say so. I think him a good influence for Neil," I replied a bit timidly.

"I don't know about the good influence in some ways. But he is straight as a string in business. A bad man to make an enemy. That was one reason I hoped to see Mr. Forbes tonight."

"There he comes now. He expected to be late—I am so glad. Neil, Mr. Frederick is calling." I rose to meet my

STATE HOUSE NEWS

In addition to the immense road program of 1919 the drafting department of the state highway commissions office is now at work upon designs for a number of steel, concrete and combination bridges, which will aggregate about \$1,000,000, bids for which will soon be advertised. Engineer Herbert Nuss, summing up the projected work for the present year, shows that there are now more than 75 projects under way or let to contractors, which will call for approximately \$12,000,000. There is made available for this year's program, through federal and state appropriations, gasoline tax and bonding acts, a total of about \$29,000,000. The program includes 125 miles of macadam, 284 miles of hard surface, in addition to several hundreds of grading, the most important portions of which are on the Columbia highway and in the lines south through the Willamette valley. Engaged upon the technical work of this program there is a force of from 350 to 375 men and women employed, 47 being employed in the state house.

Several days ago, when State Treasurer Hoff made known the fact that \$2,000,000 of negotiable securities had been removed from the vaults of the

husband.

"Just the man I want to see Frederick! Excuse me please, we will go into the library." Neil had ignored me, addressing his remark to aunt. I so wished they had remained in the music room. I wanted to hear what they said. As I bade aunt good night a few moments later I wondered what had happened—had Neil offended Mr. Scott, and would he be his enemy?

(Tomorrow—Frederick Tells Neil That Scott Is Dangerous.)

NEW SHOW TODAY
VAUDEVILLE WORTH WHILE
SIGN OF GOOD SHOWS **BLIGN** **WHERE EVERYBODY GOES**
THEATRE

department and spirited away to a place of absolute safety, it was taken as a joke by a lot of people. As a matter of fact, the raiding of the treasurer's department by sery and ingenious men would be no more of a stunt than has repeatedly been pulled off in broad daylight by professional robbers. Since this precaution was taken last week there have been discovered evidences that point to just such a raid upon the vaults of the state house, the bolts of the basement door having been tampered with by someone with designs upon the department. Added precautions have been taken to safeguard the state funds, including the arming of the men in the office.

The largest bridge contract included in the program of the state highway commission this year is a reinforced concrete structure to cross Rogue river near Rock Point, in Jackson. This will have a total length of nearly 500 feet, the river span to be 115 feet in length. Bids for this will be received at the June meeting of the commission in Portland, along with eight other lesser structures to be built in the Willamette valley.

BUY IN SALEM ALWAYS

Oregon National Guard Unit Lands In New York

New York, May 20.—(United Press.)—The transport Siboney from Brest and Rochambou from Havre arrived today. The Siboney brought home the 120th infantry and the 123rd machine gun battalion.

Rochambou's passengers included company H, 162nd infantry, an Oregon National Guard unit, three officers and 241 men; the 281st motor truck company; 486th motor truck company; 398th motor truck company; 13th emergency second regiment air service mechanics.

VOGEL ESCAPES

Berlin, May 20.—(United Press)—Lieutenant Vogel, imprisoned after conviction for complicity of the murder of Karl Liebknecht, radical leader, has escaped, it was learned today.

The thirty-first annual convention of the National Livestock association closed a three days' session at Pittsburg Saturday by selecting Chicago as its meeting place next year.

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