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PORTLAND, OR., FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1906

THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

To those deluded individuals who in slet that there is no difference between the Republican and Democratic parties it is recommended to read the first sentence of the platform adopted by the Democracy of Multnomah County by their central committee. "A party exists," this platform declares, "to maintain principles." That is, the function of a political party is to sit perched forever like a fat Buddha on a pedestal and eternally utter abstract propositions. It is never to accomplish anything, never even to attempt anything. Its whole mission and purpose are fulfilled by the continual repetition of general principles. No matter whether they are true or false; no matter whether they are or are not applicable to real life. Provided that they are continually and forever repeated, the mission of the party is fulfilled. Whatever else the committee which prepared the platform accomplished, they certainly succeeded in expressing by onbrief sentence the spirit and essence of the Democracy, not only of Oregon, but of the whole country. That spirit is one of vague theorizing, with little or no thought of the application of the theories to practical affairs.

The Republican party, on the other hand, values practice equally with prin-It has never been satisfied with the arid maintenance of its doctrines, but has always sought to apply them, It is the party of effort and achievement. The Democratic party is like a rich millionaire who sits calmly under a tree in his formal garden and wishes the world were better. The Republican party is like the ploneer who takes his family out into the forest or upon the prairie and sets vigorously to work to make it better. All that Democracy could as well be done by a machine like a prayer which goes on forever grinding out petitions to a false God. The Republican party is the party of active thought and virile achievement. The mission of the Republican party, to which Mr. Withycombe referred in his opening speech is to shun that paralysis of idle theory which always has and always will beset the Democracy, and continue its rec ord of sound thought and noble deed. No party that is worthy of public conadence exists merely to maintain principles. The only party that counts in the affairs of men is one that puts principles into practice.

The county Democracy bases its dec laration of principles upon two fundamental propositions, one of which is false, and the other a cardinal doctrine of the Republicans. The faise proposition is this: "That government is best which governs least." Nothing could be more utterly asinine. Men of all ages and countries have tried to describe in a short sentence the best government. Goethe sald it was the one which taught men to govern themselves: Macaulay, that the best government was that which desired to make the people happy and know how to do it; Solon, that the best government makes the injury of one man the concern all; and Pope declared that the best government is the one that is best administered. All these utterances tain some elements of truth and falsehood, but the dictum of the county Democracy is unadulterated folly. When a Democrat announces a glittering generality he never troubles himself think how it would work in practice. In regard to this one, let us do it for him. Consider what would happen if his maxim were adopted as a working rule in public affairs. One of the duties of governments is to protect human life. That government is best which protects life least, according to the Democratic platform. A still better government would cease to interfere with thieves and burglars; it would refrain from all efforts to enforce the small consequence to the Oregon policy laws, indeed it would enact no laws; it rould make no attempt to protect the weak against the strong or to secure that "equal opportunity for all" which the platform demands in its next sen-Since the best government is that which governs least, of course the ideal government is that which does not govern at all. This is the logical outome of the fundamental Democratic principle, and it means that the county Democracy has put itself on record in archy, says Cato, the great Roman statesman, and we are of the opinion that the people of Oregon will agree with him. Are we prepared to entrust the control of our state to a party which opens its declaration of principles with a velled acceptance of anarchism?

special privilege to none," is only another way of putting Mr. Roosevelt's demand for the square deal. The county Democracy has swiped the maxim bodily from the Republican President, and to conceal the peccadillo they have decked it out with those frills of rhetoric which are so dear to the seart of the orthodox Jeffersonian theorist. To President Roosevelt it means entrol of corporations, regulation of rates and reform of the trust-breeding tariff; to the Democrats it is an empty phrase which they wrote into their platorm for the same reason that Dogberry vanted to be written down an ass; they liked the sound of it. What it meant they neither knew nor cared.

In thorough consistency with their principle that anarchy is the best kind of government, the county Democrats declare in favor of wildcat bank currency. They know, or ought to know, what terrible evils this pernicious device of Satan has inflicted upon the country in the past, but your true Bourbon learns nothing from experience. The only thing he values is his precious theory. How much destruction and misery it may wreak is of no concern to him. Wildcat banks are a step toward anarchy; therefore he favors them. If he could imagine anything worse in the way of banks, he would prefer that; but, as he cannot, he declares for wildcat banks as the worst thing possible, Such is Democracy. The platform declares that one cause of panics is the fact that there is not sufficient money to pay debts in hard times. This is a new and astonishing conomic principle. Very likely, when a panic begins capitalists throw their oney into the fire. If they do not, then there is just as much money during a panic as at any other time. Credit is the thing that is annihilated in a panic, not money; and when credit falls money cannot be borrowed, even if we have a hundred times as many banks as now. Multiplying banks cannot avert panics, and the issue of a wildcat currency would make them all the more frequent and disastrous.

The platform denounces the principle of protection on grounds purely theoret-ical, "The protective tariff is an unwarranted interference with freedom of trade," and so on. Rational thinkers have long since agreed that protection is sometimes a good thing for a country and sometimes not, according to circumstances. No general abstract prin tiple applies to the question. To advance the general welfare it is sometimes necessary to interfere with the natural course of trade, as it is to inerfere with other natural processes. Civilization has been built up by a long series of interferences with what is natural. In these matters reason and experience must guide us, not wordy theories. Tariff reform is one thing; tariff destruction another and very different thing. President Rossevelt and the Re-publican party, which he lends, are for tariff reform; the county Democracy is for tariff destruction with the industrial anarchy which would follow thereupon. The voter may take his choice between the two methods.

The platform desires some modification of the present system of land ownership "which will permit unoccupied and unused land to be given preferentially to him who will occupy and use Presumably the county Democracy has never heard of the Republican homestead laws, which aim at this very result and have largely attained it How much farther would they go Would they confiscate all land which the owner does not farm with his own hands? Probably, since this would be another step toward anarchy. How pleasing to the farmer who has an outying pasture not in every-day use wil e the prospect of seeing it sold to fill the pockets of a gang of Democratic state officials. We should fancy that this happy thought of the county De-mocracy will vastly increase the rural vote for their ticket.

The wordy theoretical paragraph upon railroads and other corporations omes in the end to the point that the Government should control them. This, of course, contradicts the fundamental not trouble a true Democrat. He revels In contradictions and thrives on inconsistencies. But no matter about that. We wish only to remark that this is exactly what the present Republican Administration is doing and doing effectively. The President and Congress ere bringing the corporations under control. Shall we take the work out of their hands and entrust it to a group of theorists whose sincerity is at least doubtful and whose incompetence is demonstrated by the whole history of the Democratic party?

Upon the whole, we may say of this amazing platform that it contains some good things borrowed from the Republicans and a large number of bad and dangerous ones which are genuine Democratic doctrine. What its effect upon the voters will be remains to be seen, but there is so much sound common sense distributed among the popu lation of Oregon that one cannot expect it to gain a great many converts.

ADVANCE IN INSURANCE RATES. The proposed 25 per cent advance in nsurance rates in the congested districts of Chicago, and of 50 per cent in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky and Tennessee, will undoubtedly enable the insurance companies to recoup quickly their losses in the San Francisco disaster. There is nothing in the plan that indicates that the rights of the policy-holders were considered in the slightest degree, and it accord ingly seems strange that the able financlers who manage the fire insurance companies were satisfied with a flat advance of 50 per cent when a 100 per cent advance would have refilled their coffers so much sooner. Speaking from a selfish standpont, it is perhaps of holder whether the rates in the Middle West are advanced or remain on the basis in effect before the San Francisco disaster made such enormous hauls on the reserve funds.

But Oregon has an interest in the matter, for the same insurance companies that are doing business in the states mentioned are also doing busness in Oregon, and in a large proportion of the business underwritten there is no difference in the degree of risk favor of anarchy. Any government, no assumed in the states named and in matter how bad, is preferable to an- Oregon. If the unreasonable advance Oregon. If the unreasonable advance reproduction. Thoughtful, responsible can be enforced without restricting or people whose progeny would and will hampering the business of the compa nies interested in the states where it will first be tried, it will be a matter of but a short time until an attempt will be made to enforce the same advance in the Pacific Northwest. Rates in this indorsement of a numerous progeny for state, and especially in Portland, are which they are unable to provide, and a

under these excessive premiums for many years, paying them under protest on the assurance that the rate was a necessity in order to admit of the accumulation of reserves which at any time might be needed to meet such emergencies as that which finally did arise in San Francisco.

San Francisco is more than half a century old, and some handsome surcluses must have accumulated during that period prior to the disaster. It may also be a thousand years before another such an emergency will arise But the accumulating reserves which fifty years of profitable business in San Francisco had piled up, and those which another thousand years of reanable premiums would make available, are apparently not to be considered at this time. Instead there is a disposition to make the policy-holders of the United States pay up these osses at once in the form of increased premiums, and thus not interrupt the steady flow of fat dividends to the inirance men. But there are objections to the plan, and before it has been carried too far these objections may take the form of a revolt against the old-established companies engaged in a new line of "high finance." An excellent opportunity is offered for the establishent of local underwriting companies whose promoters will be satisfied to do business on a moderate margin of profit for the risk involved.

It is, of course, unreasonable to supose that an insurance company can pay losses until it collects premiums sufficiently large to meet these losses, But the business of underwriting fire risks has become so universal that it requires no great knowledge of mathematics to enable the underwriter to ascertain almost exactly the degree of risk involved and the rate necessary to meet it. That the rates in effect prior to the San Francisco fire were sufficient to admit of a healthy profit for the underwriters is well known and understood all over the Pacific Coast, and there is no occasion for any advance at this time. Especially is this true in cities like Portland, where an excellent fire department and s ringent building rules have reduced the hazard of fire to a minimum. If the plan now posed for the Middle Western States is attempted in Oregon, it will be 'resisted, and a large share of the underwriting business may drift into the hands of local companies whose rates will be based on the risk involved, and not on the amount that can be squeezed out of the policy-holders under guise of an emergency demand.

A DILEMMA.

Mr. Withycombe's position upon the mportant matter of public utilities worthy of especial notice and commendation. He declares for public ownership and control of franchises, with private operation of the tangible property of the corporations. This is sensi de and right, and it is precisely what The Oregonian has contended for these many months. Among the Democrats, owever, we lament to observe one of hose discrepancies in the matter which to not seem to trouble their leaders at all, but which are a source of profound sorrow to their friends. Chamberlain, in his opening pronunciamento, declared for public ownership, not of the franchises only, but also of the tangible property; while the Multiomah County Democracy comes out poldly and unmistakably against public

vnership of the tangible property. We condole with the Governor in this emma of his. It is certainly trying o have one's supporters go back on on in this way and denounce his cherished principles. We hope the rift in the lute may not develop into an out-and-out quarrel. Why not hold a new convenion in the interest of party harmony compromising, declaration?

THE ANTI-FRATERNITY BULE.

The Board of Education of Chicago has taken most stringent measures against fraternities and sororities in its High Schools. The trustees utterly refuse to temporize further with this evil even to the extent of permitting the principle upon which the platform is continuance of membership in these orbased, but a little matter like that does rent school year. The board is composed of fifteen members, and ten of these supported the "anti-fraternity rule" by which students must give up the fraternities or the honors of the High Schools. It is understood that the other five were in favor of less precipitate action, being inclined, for the sake of the Spring track meets and baseball and oratorical contests, to postpone action against the societies until completion of this year's work.

While school authorities in a number of cities agree that the Greek-letter so ciety craze has been detrimental to the best interests of the schools; that it is undemocratic and tends to jeniousy, clannishness and intriguing for school offices, and is, withal, inimical to the public school purpose, it seems that Chicago educators have found its influence more pernicious than usual. Fail ing to control its objectionable features they have, in desperation, determined to stamp it out, even if it depopulates the High Schools. The question as to whether a minority of the pupils of the High Schools or the duly constituted educational authorities shall control is one that must be settled sooner or later Prudent people are of the opinion that the sooner it is settled the better.

AN OVERWORKED SUBJECT.

Now comes Dr. Lyman Beecher Sperry, of Oberlin, O., Indorsing before a large audience of men President Roosevelt's views upon race suicide The half-made-up, miserably-housed poorly-clad, sadiy-neglected children whose name is legion, that throng the byways of our cities, appear as pitiful exponents of the absurdly overworked theory that all men should be fathers physical fitness, mental endowment or material conditions. That many people shirk the obligations of parentage who should take them up and discharge them to the benefit of the state is true. But that many more who have no call to be parents, beyond that urged by instincts purely selfish, is a fact of much greater import to the state and

It is the latter class that is influenced by "stale repetition hammered on the be a benefit to the state, regulate these matters for themselves, regarding exhortation upon the subject as an impertinence, while the thoughtless and rresponsible find in such exhortation

and help them clothe, feed and educate their children.

Juvenile Courts, Children's Homes Baby Homes, Refuge Homes and Boys and Girls' Aid Societies-active and populous representatives of each of which are found in this communitystand as refutations of the statement that every married couple should bring children into the world, this being their first duty. The truth is that irresponsible parentage is a far greater evil than is so-called race suicide, and the man who is the father of numerous children for whom he cannot, will not or does not provide is an enemy to the state, a scourge upon thrift and a menace to

A family is a good thing only when well ordered and comfortably provided for, and the parents of such families do not need advice in regard to increasing or limiting the number of their children. Public teachers will do well to confine their efforts to the inculcation and exaltation of personal responsibil-This object accomplished, the rest will follow without specific direction.

The bill to make denatured alcohol free is of enormous importance to Oregon and Washington. Denatured alcohol is made from potatoes. Potatoes are a staple crop in this section, and would be a source of vast wealth to the farmers if a steady market were assured. The manufacture of denatured alcohol from potatoes has enriched the farmers of Germany almost beyond calculation. It is used, like gasoline, for fuel and light, and, if free, would cut off some of the pickings of Standard Oll. Therefore Aldrich holds up the bill in the Senate. The misdeeds of this pernicious personage have become intolerable. His sleek subservience to Standard Oil is not only a disgrace to the country, but a positive menace to the public welfare.

The passing of Mrs. Jefferson Davis seems to be near. Even should the enerable widow of the one-time Confederate chief survive her present crit-ical illness, her long lease of life must soon end. She was a young woman, full of Southern spirit and bitterness in the stormy days in which her husband held court in Montgomery. She is now nearly 80 years of age, and the record of her eventful life must soon be closed The people of the South will mourn her. when the time comes, as a mother those of the North will remember her with compassion as a woman of high appointed and who bore her disappoint-ment heroically, but without the poor pretense of resignation.

The Government crop report, which appeared yesterday, shows the acreage of Winter wheat to be 1,700,000 less than that reported sowed last Fall. By the enigmatical system of percentage which no one not in possession of the scret understands, we are informed that the condition on May 1 was 89, compared with 92 on May 1, 1965, and 85 the average for the past ten years on a corresponding date. The Chicago market showed its indifference to the report with a sustained advance of less than % of a cent per bushel. New wheat will be coming into the markets of the Southwest in a few days, and until the crop is nearer safe than at this time, the future of the market is all a guess.

Here are some statistics, easily renembered, to hand to visitors who inabout the sources of Oregon's wealth: Dally lumber product, \$50,000; ially flour product, \$25,000; dally prodect of all of Portland's factories 000. While the extent of Portland's ommerce is well known, the figures on manufacturing will, no doubt, surprise the average person not given to investigation. And be it remembered the foregoing statement is not made on the Seattle plan, but is based on the official report of the Federal Census Bureau. A growth of over 50 per cent in manufactures in four years is something worth talking about.

The longshoremen's strike, which has paralyzed the commerce of the Great Lakes since May 1, has been settled, the men returning to work at the old wages pending a further conference on the subject. The strike, though only nine days old, worked great inconvenience to shippers and caused a loss both to workingmen and their employers that will absorb a large portion of the season's profits. It is the old lesson, often conned but never fully learned, which teaches that concession in industrial differences, to be productive of the best results, should precede active hostilities.

The proposition reported from New York to loan San Francisco \$50,000,000 in bonds on steel structures and real estate to the amount of 50 per cent of value of ground and buildings will go a long way toward solving a problem the stricken city has been facing the past three weeks.

Criminals do not fare so well on Britmay look for quicker results in the way of capturing the trainrobbers who at tacked the Canadian Pacific's crack train than we are accustomed to on this side of the boundary line,

Mr. Brown, late of Sing Sing, pre-tended to be J. Pierpont Morgan, Jr., of Astoria, Or., and of course he was caught. Why didn't he avoid all suspicton by pretending to be John Jacob of Astoria, Or.? Everybody knows that's where Astor comes from.

Farmers in the Applegate bottom, near Kubli, in Josephine County, are planting sorghum extensively this Spring. The experiment last year resulted in a quantity of first-class syrup. This is a "Made in Oregon" that ought to be fostered.

Possibly they won't go to fall; but somehow the oil trust and the beef trust, and the railroad trust and the coal trust, and a large assortment of other trusts, have reached the conclu sion that it IS some of the public's business.

Grant's Pass is soon to vote on a proposition to sell bonds to provide for fourth-ward schoolhouse of eight Nothing advertises a town so well as its red brick schoolhouses. ear," regarding the abstract duty of They point its way to progressive peo-

> The drug trust says there isn't any It is simply the Proprie tary Association of America, banded together, no doubt, to keep down prices.

Creffield will know better than to try to rise again when he learns how soon The maxim "Equal opportunity to all, already very high. We have grouned challenge to society to come forward Mitchell is likely again to be at liberty. and fire.

WITHYCOMBE'S CITIZENSHIP

He Has Voted Republican Ticket Since He Came of Age,

MR.

PORTLAND, Or., May 10.—To the Edi-tor.)—I observe that an effort is made on the behalf of the Democratic opposition to my election as Governor to show that I resided in Oregon for 17 years before I became a citizen. I will state the facts, so that the ublic may understand for all time how tterly baseless and unjust this parcular fabrication is, and how easily

confuted by the simple truth.

I was born near Plymouth, England, March 2f, 1854. My father, Thomas Withycombe, my mother, Mary Ann Withycombe, my three brothers, John, Thomas and Philip, my sister Mary and myself, constituting the entire Withy-combe family, came to Oregon in 1871 to become permanent residents and American citizens. Shortly after his American citizens. Shortly after his arrival my father. Thomas Withycombe, declared his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States. I was then 17 years of age, and I was informed that the act of my father naturalized all the minor members of the family. Deceming myself an American citizen I voted for Rutherford B. Hayes for President in 1876, and I have ever since that time discharged with good conscience and to the best of my ability my full duties as a loyal citizen of the great American republic. About 1888, a question was raised as to whether Thomas H. Tongue, then a candidate for State Senator, who was born in for State Senator, who was born in England and came to this country under circumstances similar to mine, was in fact a qualified American zen. It occurred to me then that pos sibly my own naturalization had not been regular, and in my great anxiety and degire to possess an absolutely un-clouded title to my American citizen-ship I went before Judge Deady and formally took out naturalization papers. I think that there never was the slightest question that from the time my father became a citizen I was my-self a citizen. But I simply made as-surance doubly sure. That is all there is to it, If I was not a citizen, I beg to say to all Democratic gentlemen who are so much concerned about my nativity, after my 25 years of con-tinuous residence in Oregon, that I tinuous residence in Oregon, that I will waive the statute of limitations and submit to prosecution and trial for having cast an illegal vote for the Republican ticket in 1876, and at every subsequent election in order that they may have a clear and conclusive de-termination of a matter that they now JAMES WITHYCOMBE.

REPORT ON STANDARD OIL,

New York Sun.

President Roosevelt's message of yes-terday has the unqualified approval of the Sun, so far as it publishes a deter-mination on his part to grapple now diminstion on his part to grapple now di-rectly with the most powerful corpora-tion in the United States for enforce-ment of law and punishment of violations of the law. The enterprise is worthy of the man, and the duty belongs to the office he holds. Every power of the Fed-eral Government, every foot-pound of energy in the Administration should be directed fearlessly, through the Depart-ment of Justice, for the prosecution of the beneficiaries, both givers and takers, of the enormous system of secret rate described in Commissioner Garfield's re port and exhibited by the President as the basis of his recommendations.

Creditable to the Administration.

New York World.

That Mr. Roosevelt has ventured to grapple with the Standard Oll Company is altogether creditable to him and to his Administration. No other Administration Administration. No other Administration has ever presumed to challenge that arrogant corporation, and the President's conduct will surely help his party in the Fall campaign. It was good politics, as well as good statesmanship; but it will be still better politics if Mr. Roosevelt insists upon the most rigid enforcement of the present interstate commerce law against the Standard Oil offenders, and also recommends to Congress the restoration of the imprisonment chause, which was eliminated by the Elkins amendment of 1903, which he signed.

In the matter of preventing the iniqui-In the matter of preventing the iniquiin the matter of prevening the matter of tous practices exposed in the Garfield report, it is time the Government of the United States ceased to take the William Travers Jerome view that no millionairs can do anything for which he ought to be

sent to jail.

The New York Tribune has held that a corporation should not be condemned merely on the score of its immensity or of its colosof its immensity or of its colossal success in overcoming business rivalry. If its practices did not violate law
and morals it was entitled to reap the
benefits of business sugacity and business foresight. As we have said, apologists for the Standard Oil Company have
contended that its methods in recent
years have been entirely legal, and some
of its officers even now deny that the
operations described by Commissioner
Garfield actually violate existing statutes. But it will be difficult to convince
the American public that the transacthe American public that the transactions exposed do not constitute a defiance of the spirit, if not the letter, of the law, and do not put the company in the unenviable attitude of profiting by practices which Congress has condemned and court to wut an end to. and sought to put an end to.

Secret Rebate a Coward's Device.

Secret Rebate a Coward's Device.

New York Times.

Assuming Garfield's proofs are adequate the country will demand that justice and the law have their due. We see no reason why secret rebates should not be crushed out now for all time. It is a device of the business coward and assassin: it is dishonest and detestable. The country hates it, and among those who have openly condemned it were hypocrites who were all the time secretly giving or receiving it. Here is a chance to make it known in the most conspicuous manner that the American people will no longer tolerate this contemptible fraud by which men and corporations have so long sought to gain an illegitimate advantage over rivals. illegitimate advantage over rivals. Come at a Critical Moment.

Come at a Critical Moment.

Philadelphia Press.

Both message and report have come at the psychological moment. They find the Senate debating. They offer proof of railroad abuses that have been denied. Public indignation will rise over the whole country. It will be impossible for the Senate longer to delay a measure demanded by justice and the people. President Rooseveit is right. The railroads cannot alone maintain rates against these great trusts. A Government commission must stand ready to revise rates. A railroad must be as open to a Fed-A railroad must be as open to a Federal examiner as a bank. Publicity is the only sure guaranty of honesty. Railroad pools must be permitted under Government supervision and approval in order

Shuffle Mixes Thirteen Bables

to maintain rates.

North American. Among the hundreds of San Francisco Among the hundreds of San Francisco refugees who arrived at Denver, Colo., and were cared for by the relief committee were is young babies. While their mothers were at supper last night a woman in charge of the improvised nursery bathed the infants and dressed them in new clothes provided by the relief committee. She had just completed her task when the mothers came back. They thought they had lost their children, and there was a bedlam of lamentation until they had sorted over the babies and all were identified and claimed.

Modjeska's Ranch as Refuge.

Los Angeles Dispatch.

Madame Modjeska, the actress, has placed her ranch near here at the disposal of refugees from San Francisco and other cities affected by carthquake

Local Option: Present and Proposed

Careful Analysis of the Provisions in the Measure to Be Submitted Under the Initiative to the Voters of Oregon at the Coming June Election-How .. the Existing Statute Stands and What Changes Are Intended to be Made.

gon local option law, which will be voted upon by the people at the June lection, is a measure that has received quite extensive discussion, but that is ittle understood in its details, for the reason that it is rather long, and the average voter cannot take time to compare the proposed new law with the original. For the information of the voters of Oregon, an effort will be made in this article to present in concise form an impartial statement of the provisions of the present local option law and the proposed amendment. The existing law was framed by the anti-saloon interests and framed by the anti-saloon interests and was adopted by the people at the general election of 1904. The proposed amendment was framed by the liquor interests, and will be voted upon June 4, 1906. The bill will appear upon the official bailot under the following title: "For amendment to the local option law giving anti-prohibitionists and prohibitionists equal privileges." This title will be followed with the words "Yes" and "No." Those who want the present local option law amended will vote "Yes." Those who want the present law to stand will vote want the present law to stand will vote

It is impossible to make a comparison of the proposed new law with the old, section by section, for the reason that the sections of the proposed law do not treat of the same subjects as the corres-ponding sections of the present law. The measure proposed by the liquor interests is practically a ropeal of the law drawn by the anti-liquor interests, and the sub-stitution of another law upon the same general subject, but entirely different in its language and its provisions.

The present law provides that an elec-tion upon the question of the sale of liquor may be called in any precinct, in any district composed of a number of adjoining precincts, or in a county as a whole. The proposed new law provides for elections by single precincts only. The present law requires the signatures of 10 per cent of the voters of the dis-trict affected in order to secure submir-sion of the question of the sale of intoxicating liquor. The proposed amendment requires the signaturer of 30 per cent of

requires the signaturer of 30 per cent of the voters.

Under the present law a liquor election may be held on the first Monday in June in any year, but when a precinct or dis-trict has voted "dry," the question can-not be again presented therein for two years, except at an election for the en-tire county.

When an entire county has gone "dry."

When an entire county has gone "dry."

the question cannot be presented again in
the county until the enany precinct of the county until the en-tire county has again gone "wet." Wher the election is for an entire county, pro-hibition becomes effective in any precinc that votes "dry." Under the proposed law, the elections must be held by cincts only, and when an election been held, regardless of the result, mestion cannot be voted upon in that

precinct again for four years.

Under the present law, an election upon the liquor question may be carried by a najority of the votes cast upon that sub ject. Under the proposed law, a majority of all the votes cast at the election would be required to carry the election for prohibition. Thus, under the proposed if 100 votes were cast at the elect but only 80 of them marked upo

HE proposed amendment of the Ore- | the liquor question, it would require 51 to carry the election for prohibition.
In a liquor election under the present
law, the affirmative is placed first upon the ballot, thus:

"For Prohibition."

"Against Prohibition."
In a liquor election held under the proposed law, the negative would be placed first upon the hallot, in this manner:
"The sale of intexicating liquors as 6

"The sale of intoxicating liquors as 6 beverage shall not be prohibited."

"The sale of intoxicating liquors as 8 beverage shall be prohibited."

Under the present law, petitions for submission of the liquor question must be filed 30 days prior to the date of the election. Under the proposed law, the petitions must be filed 46 days prior to the date of the election. Under the proposed law, the petitions must be filed 45 days prior to the date of the election. Under both laws, the signers of the petitions must be registered voters.

tered voters.

Under the present law, the sale of intexicating liquor becomes unlawful on the first day of July after the election on the first Monday in June, if prohibition carries. Under the proposed law, a vote for prohibition would not become effective until after 90 days from the entering of the record of the result of the election.

The present law prescribes a penalty of fine of from \$50 to \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail 10 to 30 days, or by both

the county jail 10 to 30 days, or by both fine and imprisonment. The proposed law fixes the penalty at a fine of not more than \$250 for the first offense and not more than \$500 for the second offense,

with no imprisonment.

The present law prohibits the sale giving away of intoxicating liquors in prohibition county or precinct, except pure alcohol for scientific purposes, or wines to church officials for sacramental purposes, or atimulants as medicine in cases of actual sickness, but such stimulants must be sold only upon the written prescription of a regularly practicing physician, and a prescription can be used but once and must be canceled and placed on file when used. The proposed law would prohibit the sale or giving away of intexteating liquers, except at wholesale, and except for medicinal, pharma-ceutical, scientific or sacramental pur-poses, and when sold for medicinal pur-poses they shall be sold only in good faith upon a written prescription by a physician in active practice, "which pre-scription shall not be used but once." "he proposed law expressly provides that the giving away of intoxicants by a person

giving away of intoxicants by a person in his private dwelling, unless such dwelling is a place of public resort, shall not be a violation of the law.

The present law requires Circuit Judges to call attention of Grand Juries to the prohibition law, and makes it the duty of the District Attorneys to file complaints against persons selling liquor unlawfully, and requires the Circuit Judges or maristrates to issue warrants comor magistrates to issue warrants com-manding the Sheriff or Constable to search the place where it is charged liquors are sold, and if admission be refused he may force his way in and arrest and hold for trial the persons who have violated the law. The present law makes the persons to whom liquor is sold compotent witnesses, and provides that it shall not be necessary to show the knowledge of the principal in order to convict for the acts of an agent; also that the issuance of a license or internal revenue special tax stamp by the Federal Govern-ment for the sale of liquor shall be prima facie evidence that such person is selling or giving away intoxicating liquors. The

last night from San Francisco, and told of his experiences there during the great

earthquake.

He was in the Palace Hotel when the shock came, and he immediately jumped from bed. Judge Cuthbert said that almost the first person he saw as he reached the street was Caruso. He was standing on the corner near the hotel, singing the scales and trying his voice.

Baltimore News.

After a period of 53 years spent in the

Arer a period of so year special service of the Jews' Free School, Bell Lane, Spitalfields, England, L. B. Abrahams, the head masser, will shortly retire. He is 67 years old, Israel Zangwill was one of his pupils. The Jews' Free School is said to be the largest element-

IN THE OREGON COUNTRY.

Viewed From Mount Tacoma. Ledger, Some of those "Holy Rollers" at Seattle do not seem to have been much better than old Dowle.

Women Astride. Wella Walla Union, A woman riding horseback "cross saddle" is one of the most awkward

and uninspiring figures that mars the landscape

Another Truth Self Evident. Salem Journal.

The pioneers who stepped out at Champoeg half a contury ago took deliberate political action to establish self-government by the people.

Inams, the heast master, will shortly retire. He is 67 years old, Israel Zangwill was one of his pupils. The Jews' Free School is said to be the largest elementary school in the world, having 3500 pupils.

The Small Bores.

Salem Journal.

God made the country. Men make cities. But men must have the mind to create to be creators. It is mind alone that is capable of greatness, and nen of small minds never build great

Diagnosing Local Trouble.

Baker Democrat.

The work of the knockers has become so strenuous that even the transportation companies pass us up as deserving anything like serious consideration in the present stage of the development same. velopment game.

Craftsmen All.

Aberdeen Bulletin As denoting that, after all, there's no particular significance in a name, it is interesting to observe that Mr. Carpenter is president and Mr. Carpenter is president and Mr. Shoemaker is secretary of the Painters' Union of this city.

May Not Be Sightless, Pendleton Tribune. If the hand of the law is raised against George Mitchell, the slayer of Frank C. Creffield, prophet of Holy Rollerism, ex-convict, debaucher of women, and beast, then will the old adage be proven that justice is blind.

Caruso Twentieth Century Nero, New York Herald. Judge H. J. Cuthbert returned home

When Hobson Comes. B, A. in American Spectator. Captain Richmond Pearson Hobson has nominated for Congress, the tion is equivalent to election.-News Item

Yea, bang the drums when Hobson comes to Congress, though 'the true The galleries for ladies will be full the seasion through:

The latest millinery on many a "queen" and "fairy," Will nod approval when he speaks, with unmistaken vim; And maidens all ecstatic, albeit ungram-

matic. While chewing fudge will point and nudge and whisper, "There, that's HIM?" They will not let him go, you bet! when his day's work is o'er

They'll hang around as if it were a matinee's stage door: The hero of the Merrimac will have to give the very smack

the very smack

He used when after Spain's defeat he
gained such lasting fame.

And all old maids pedantic will besiege
with antics fautic.

And as they say in service way, will have
just "same to same."

Few will be sad and more be glad when Hebson lifts his voice
Aloud in Halls of Congress to proclaim that "Hobson's choice" Hobson's choice"

Is a large and well-manned navy, for we're with him there, b' gravy!

Here's hoping that our Uncle Sam will join the glad refrain!

We'll forgive all osculation if Hobson puts the North.

Where it will sure hold peace secure by rule of might-and main.



HOW RAILROAD REBATES WORK

-From the Pittsburg Dispatch