# The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1913.

#### OUTCRY FROM SHIPOWNERS.

The LaFoliette seamen's bill is denounced as "a bill to destroy American shipping." and its provisions for the safety of life at sea are held up ridicule by the New York Journal of Commerce. These provisions require every vessel, whether at sea, on the lakes or on rivers, to carry enough lifeboats to seat all passengers and to have two able seamen for every boat. In the case of the ordinary steamer from New York to Asbury Park, 120 lifeboats and 240 men would be necessary, most of the men would have nothing to do and the passengercarrying capacity would be greatly re-

It is impossible to eliminate danger of loss of life at sea absolutely. But port of it is possible to reduce danger to a sinks in. minimum. The requirement of enough lifeboats to carry all on board a ship seems unnecessary in these days of wireless telegraphy, for in time of danger help can be summoned and ships are so numerous on established lanes of travel that it is always at hand. When the Volturno sent out her call for help, ships swarmed around her and the loss of life was due not to lack of boats, but to the storm and to scarcity of men to handle them. On inland waters the numof boats could be reduced as possible distance from shore grew less and the probality of relief increased.

The requirement of two able seamen for every boat might be relaxed to provide that every man on a ship's -not only seamen, but stewards engineers, firemen and others-should be an oarsman and that all have regular boat drill. These men, reinforced by passengers who can pull an oar, should suffice to man the boats.

Shipowners make a great outcry against abolition of penalties for desertion and abrogation of treaties providing such penalties. The bill retains pennities for disobedience at wea, for these are necessary to the preservation of the ship and the lives There is no reason why of the crew. a seaman, while his ship is in port. should be on any different footing from a landsman. He should be as free to quit his employment and should be subject to no severer penalties for breach of a contract of The bill contains other provisions to ameliorate the condition of seamen, but relief from penalties for desertion might serve the same purpose. A skipper will control his tem-per and provide better food and quarif he is likely to lose his crew at the first port of call. Foreign shipowners will pay better wages rather than lose their crews on arrival at American ports. The natural result will be a closer approach to equality eign ships.

If the LaPollette bill be too drastic the alternative Nelson bill is utterly inadquate. The one emanated from the seamen, the other from the shipowners, and neither would compromise. A disinterested body can alone sift out the reasonable from the unreasonable demands of each party. A National commission could, by ther ough and impartial inquiry, ascertain what was fair to each, what was necessary to safeguard life at sea and what other measures were needed to restore our merchant marine and enable it to compete with foreign ships.

## TWO TYPES OF CONGRESSMEN.

Alabama voters are approached from opposite standpoints by the two Democratic candidates for Senator-Representative Underwood and Representative Hobson. In former days, when Legislatures elected Senators, candidates for that office needed chiefly to work behind the scenes in procuring the nomination and election of their friends to the Legislature. Now they must go directly to the voters, which means that they must come out into the open, mix with the people and extend the hand of greeting to all,

Mr. Underwood goes before the voters as leader of his party in the House and as the man who has shaped and steered through Congress a great measure for the enactment into of a basic party principle. His claim upon his state rests upon his achievements for the Nation and upon the which they reflect on Alabama. His absorption in this work has kept him so constantly employed at Washington that he has been able to make only flying visits to his home and to give only passing attention to his cam-

Mr. Hobson, on the other hand; has been absent from Washington much of the time during the special session of Congress and has laid himself open to the charge of absenteeism. When charged with this delinquency, he replied that he had voted on every important rollcall and had been paired the rest of the time. He explained his absences by saying he had been conducting a Senatorial campaign, had been lecturing and had conducted through his district expeditions Government experts who had studied plant life in relation to soil fertility, the boll weevil, animal industry and the saving of human life from dis-He thus defined his conception of his duty:

Our duty is not that of answering roll calls. My simple philosophy of life is that a man should render a maximum of useful service to his fellow man in his day and generation and he alone, with his conscience, must work out what in his best judgment at various times will contribute that

Here we have two distinct conceptions of the duty of a Representative Mr. Underwood considers that his district selected him to serve it by serving the Nation and that by keeping to his task at Washington and bringing about action on the tariff he has done his duty by his state. Mr. Hobson considers that his district chose him to procure for it benefits from the National Government and that in tion having passed, the Progressives her return from the garden party, again himself.

leading scientific expeditions through in their sober senses are returning to the state he has done his duty. There is need for both types of men in the National service, and the state which sends to Congress a man of Mr. Underwood's caliber confers a boon or the Nation, while that which sends a Hobson recognizes the local aspect of National office. When Alabama otes we shall see which type it holds in higher esteem.

#### FOR THE DISSATISFIED.

The property owner who has personal interest in some city park may find profit and entertainment in laying aside for a few moments the plan of distribution of the \$200,000 prosed to be raised by a general bond issue and studying another feature of the proffered amendment.

It is expressed in the title as well as the body of the act that the amendment reserves to the Council the right to assess private property for the benefits accruing to it from park acquisitions or improvements provided in the amendment. For example, if proposed expenditure of \$34,825 in Laurelhurst Park adds that value to neighborhood lots, the neighborod lots, not the city at large, will ultimately pay the bill.

A provision somewhat similar but restricted was contained in a bond amendment voted in 1907, but in that case only the benefits from boulevards could be assessed to adjacent private property. Under the terms of the amendment now before the public there is no restriction as to class of improvement and an improvement district wide in extent may be created. The installment features of street improvement bonds are extended to park improvements.

Perhaps some of the property owners who want park improvements or organizations other than those named by Commissioner Brewster will not feel quite so abused when the full imof the bonding amendment

#### SLAUGHTER BY THE RECKLESS.

The extent to which Americans sacrifice life through recklessness may be seen in the killing in 1912 of 234 persons by automobiles in New York City, when in London, a considerably larger city, the number of fatalities from this cause was only twenty-one. The number in New York is still growing. for in less than ten months of 1918to October 26-it was 231. the years 1910 and 1912 the increase ty-one, or 50 per cent, while in New York it was from 112 to 234, or more mischief than double.

This difference, shameful to New York, is not due to more general use of the automobile in that city, for, as the American points out, motorbuses are as thick in London as streetcars are on Broadway, the taxicab is universally used and traction motors haul wagons through crowded lines of streets. Nor is it due to a lower speed limit, for London has no speed limit, while New York has a rigid limit

The difference is due to the fact that London punishes all reckless driving. while New York does not, London imprisons as well as fines the guilty, while New York only fines those who exceed the speed limit and, as the American says, "the latter penalty is with us notoriously a joke to many of the most flagrant offenders." Reckless driving is not a matter of speed. A reckless driver may cause an accident, though driving an automobile only four miles an hour. A careful driver may avoid one, though his speed be twenty miles an hour. All depends on skillful, careful manage-ment of the machine with regard to the traffic on the street.

A death roll which in a year equals for violation are ineffective as pre-ventives. The penalty should be imposed for reckless driving, which conerns not only the speed at which a machine is driven but the manner in which it is driven with reference to traffic conditions at the time of an accident.

## HANNA SEES THE LIGHT.

Dan R. Hanna, one of the most ardent champions of and one of the most liberal contributors to the Progressive party, has seen the light. He has recognized that the old Republican and the new Progressive are practically one in principle and purpose, that they differ only in little things and that by dividing on those little things they make Democratic rule possible and thus sacrifice the big things on which they agree. His newspaper, the Cleveland Leader, doubtless expresses his sentiments when it says that union of the two parties is the prevent Democratic asway to cendency and that, in remaining apart, Republicans and Progressives "throw sway their opportunities and abdicate their natural leadership." It says: The spirit of compromise and union is wider and more potent than it has been at any time since the Republican party was split asunder.

How widely this disposition of the Progressives to return to their former colitical allegiance prevails may be udged from a comparison of the recent vote on Senator with that on President in 1912 in Maryland, as follows:

President Senator 1912 1913 ... 112,674 112,485 ... 54,956 73,200 57,786 7,033 

as the Democratic vote fell off only 189, it appears that many of the 57,-753 voters who deserted the Progressive party must have voted the Demo. cratic ticket this year. In a border state like Maryland, which has shown strong disposition in recent elections to change its political allegiance, it was to be expected that the new the total vote divided among the Progressives. Deducting the Democratic loss and adding the Republican the Democrats must have gained 16,-105 and the Republicans 26,292 from the Progressives, while 8356 Progreseives abstained from voting and only 7023 remained true enough to their parent gain of the Republicans was only 33.4 per cent of the vote of 1912. they won over enough Progressives to make up for their absentees as well.

the vote of 1912, their actual gain was 39 per cent. One election after another, in Maryland as in New Jersey, in New a person there dreamed that I Jersey as in Maine and Michigan, was anything but a Duchess, shows the Progressive party to be wasting away. It was an emotional The experiment might now have uprising without foundation for a per- been ended and done with, but for one nament structure. The spasm of emo-

their former party, which in most in stances is the Republican. In adthem to reunite with that party Mr. Hanna only recommends a course they are taking without his advice.

#### PRUDERY ON THE WARPATH.

The Oregonian has received a com-munication signed by Jack London, James Oppenheim and other 'wellknown authors entering a counterprotest against that contained in a petition which has been sent to the Postmaster - General. The petition asks that the mails be closed against certain books, stories, poems, magazine articles and plays which deal frankly with the subject of sex and questions of sex hygiene. It is signed by "a Mrs. Elizabeth Grannis, a Mies

Jane Stead" and others like them. The purpose of the petition is ob scurantist. The desire of the good women who have signed it is to quench the discussion of vital problems which has lately become so lively throughout the country. They are in favor of that secresy which has facilitated vice for many years and, finding no consolation in reason or common sense, they follow the examof all bigots and seek the aid of the law to enforce their deplorable fanaticism. Very likely they have been encouraged by what has recently happened in Chicago. The postmaster of that city, posing on the altitudes of his moral purity, has shut out of the mails a course of lectures on sex hygiene which were delivered in the public schools. These discourses were

for the mails Mrs. Elizabeth Grannis, peering out upon the world through a little slit in her parlor window curtain and shuddering at the awful things she beholds, hopes that the Postmaster-General can be persuaded to take the same impossibly fanatical position as his Chicago subordinate. If these women can have their way he is to be ruled by ignorance, just as they are themselves, and stop a great social reform to gratify the prudish whims of a set of silly females who do not, and probably cannot, understand what

pure enough for the children, but not

they ask for. Consciously or not, the persons who stand in the way of publicity for sex hygiene are allies of commercialized vice. They foolishly, or wickedly, as-sume that wilful ignorance is identical with virtue and that knowledge means sin. We hope the Postmaster-General is wiser than his petitioners. in London was from fourteen to twen- If he is not we hope that Congress deprive him of his power for

#### BERNARD SHAW'S PYGMALION.

London by its naughtiness on previous occasions has forfeited the privi-lege of seeing Bernard Shaw's new play before the rest of the world, Pubication is forbidden in England for the present and its first presentation was at the Hofburgtheater in Vienna. Afterward it was played in Berlin and the reports are that it bids fair to become the most popular play on the Continent this Winter. Meanwhile London languishes in repentant sorrow over the treatment it has to endure from its unnatural adopted son. Shaw explains his unfilial conduct by reminding the British that they damn every new play of his with the epithets "dull, blasphemous and unpop-Thus his works go to the Continental theaters with a bad name and their chances of success are sadly mpaired. This play, which he calls 'Pygmalion," will be offered to London only after it has become famous in Germany and America. No doubt the London critics will then shamed out of their attitude of cynical dispraisement. "Pygmalion" treats of a very old theme, but, of course, that of many a Mexican battle has that of many a Mexican battle has most unexpected character. The taught us that speed limits with fines story is that of a lowly maiden who story is that of a lowly maiden who hand by a high-born patron and fashioned into a thing of grace and beauty. As usual the patron falls in love with his handiwork. The plays and novels which have

developed this fascinating theme are even invaded the chaste realm of poetry. "In robe and crown the king stepped down," sang Tennyson, "to meet and greet" the beggar maid and ended by conferring his crown upon Shaw's beggar maid sells flowers in London at some corner on Totenham Court Road. Her impossible father drives a cart which occasionally contains property picked up along the street more or less furtively. Her mother is lost in a mist of stepmothers. Of course she is miserably poor and her speech is vile beyond description. It is the speech of the Lon. don gutters, reeking with all imaginable linguistic filth. Her vowels are mere slobbers of sound. Her consonants are hiccoughs. This charming heroine's name is Eliza Doolittle, Taking refuge from a rain one day in a porch of St. Paul's, she falls into conversation with a Mr. Higgins, a person of wealth and station who has acquired world-wide renown by the marvelou essons he gives in phonetics. With him is his celebrated friend Pickering, who has written a great book on Spoken Sanscrit." The two men are the most formidable living authorities on phonetics.

Eliza begs them, in her gutter dia lect, to buy some flowers. Pardonably scandalized at her distressing utterance, Higgins wagers his friend Pickering that within three months he can As the total vote fell off 32,598 and so transform her language that everybody will mistake her for a Duchess "It is not what we do but what we say that determines our standing in life," says Mr. Higgins and he believes that he can by his educational method fit poor Eliza for the most exalted station. But what of her future? Will it be well thus to disarrange her affairs? What will become party would draw heavily on the of her after she has been disquall-Democratic party. Were the falling off fied for the gutter without any provision for a better fortune? three parties in proportion to their replies that "the time to think of total vote in 1912, it would come 16,- the future is when we have no more 224 from the Democrats, 7948 from future" and waves the difficulty away the Republicans and 8356 from the with a scornful gesture. Eliza is infuture" and waves the difficulty away veigled into his laboratory, and his mother, Mrs. Higgins, mildly gain to these figures, it appears that tenances the project. The girl's education is begun with scientific thoroughness. She presently exhibits wor derful aptitudes in almost every direction. She can play classical pieces of music after once hearing them party to vote for it. While the ap- Beethoven and Brahms are mere toys to her. She learns all languages with equal facility. As an imitator she is miraculous, but for months it seems as if she had no brains. Her accom-After deducting absentees in 1913 from plishments are pure parrotry. She went to the garden party, where the great test of her proficiency was to be made, and came off gloriously. Not person there dreamed that Eliza the daughter of a hundred earls at least.

confounding circumstance. Eliza, upon

and a soul. Instead of the hollow shell of a woman that she had seemed to be, it turned out that after all she was a real woman, capable not only of parroting everything she heard but also capable of loving and suffering. The future which Higgins had so lightly waved away obstinately con-fronted the little group who were interested in Eliza. It particularly terested the girl herself. "Why didn't you leave me in the gutter?" she exclaims to Higgins. "You thank God that everything is over and you can shove me back into it, don't you? What is to become of me?" Higgins is first presented in the play as a sort of scientific monster without any apparent human sensibility. All he ms to care for is the progress of his experiment. But toward the end Shaw more than hints that he is not so adamantine as he has shown himself. Association with Eliza has wakened his slumbering passion, but he manifests it in a singularly Shavian way, "I can get along without you," Eliza "don't think that I can't." Higgins coolly replies, "I know you can. I've told you so myself." In response to which endearment Eliza calls him a brutal bully and accuses him of being glad to get rid of her. To cap the

scene Higgins calls his Eliza a liar. Lovemaking of this kind provides an agreeable change from the conventional hugs and kisses which the most devoted theater-goer must confess to have grown a little stale. Nothing in Shaw's Pygmalion is stale, though we can scarcely say that anything is orig. inal either. The play refreshes because it is so odd. Ideas are shifted into strange places. Things happen as they do in dreams, without the anticipated logical relation. Naturally, too, the playwright finds occasion to exploit his social doctrines and heap deserved obloquy on "middle class morality." We should think the play would please American and British audiences as much as it has the German, for it is bright, witty and provecative of thought.

A slump in the demand for expensive apartments in New York has caused the New York Real Estate Security Company, controlling \$18,000,-000 worth of such property, to apply for a receiver. The apartments rent for \$3500 to \$4000 a year, and one of the petitioners said when asked how he explained the decreased demand:

By the high cost of living. The truth of it is that people who moved out of apartments last Epring have either remained in the country or else they have taken quarters in hotels, where they can live cheaper by eating outside than they could by keeping house themselves in their accustomed style, I am living in a hotel myself, so I know.

Even the high livers in New York are cutting expenses.

It is not such a very wonderful discovery that cubist art originated among the Indians, nor is it strictly accurate. All primitive art is cubist, that is, it represents curved surfaces by planes and angles. The modern fashion is nothing but a return to first principles in order to make a new and perhaps a better start. It is absurd to believe that all the forms of beauty have been discovered. We shall see nobler ones than brush or chisel ever yet revealed.

Democratic leaders of New York State favor the calling of a constitutional convention and among the changes in the constitution which they favor are woman suffrage, workingmen's compensation and the initiative and referendum. The most reactionary state seems to be growing radical

It costs money to get a divorce it New York. Benjamin J. Colvin, a detective, has sued George Schlagel for the balance of a bill of \$11,751 for services in procuring evidence against The Mrs. Schlagel, nearly \$1400 of which who was expended in promoting a divorce

"Oh, Gifford! I am through," may be read between the lines of President Wilson's remarks on conservation. The President is not afraid to let the people use our resources, but numbered by the hundred. It has they destroy or give to monopolles their own inheritance.

New York plumbers have been systematically robbed by unknown employes. Without wishing to east diseredit on anyone in particular, would suggest that they watch their apprentices in the plumbing business.

light wires. Which leads the abiquitous office boy to inquire if the populace is subsisting on currents, A boy of 17 who would attempt to commit suicide when blighted in love needs a dose of liver medicine to re-

On account of high water in a Texas

town food had to be propelled on elec-

store his appetite. Coddling will not help him. Income tax will be collected pendthe Government loses. Joke. Who

Villa says he will move on Mexico will be that popular Mexican day for doing things-tomorrow.

ever got back taxes paid?

The Cornell college paper is pronounced too spicy. Is that some ruse on the part of the circulation manager? President Wilson must remain in

however, after the suffrage conven tion. A new spiritual cure for drunken tess is announced by an Eastern psy-

bed with a cold. He may get better,

chologist. Spirits versus spirits. Cubist art is traced to the early Indians. Another crime laid at the door

of the primitive red man. The heavens have been observing the blue sky law most beautifully hereabouts of late.

is no man like the Governor, and are glad of it. According to a noted observer. Chicago people live just like ants. Busy-

Game and fish wardens think there

Fighting in Northern Mexico is delared at an end. Until the next revo. lution.

Portland can have continuous ball next year, "only don't do it again," Why not a chair of tangoistics in our public schools?

Really, do Salem folk know where they are at?

The muzzle is off and the dog is

unexpectedly demonstrated that she MARKET IS NOT SAFEGUARD OWNERS MORTGAGED FOR WATER Provisions Found Unsatisfactory Else-

where 5een in Amendment. PORTLAND, Dec. 3 .- (To the Editor.)-There are certain phases of the proposed \$25,000 bond issue for public markets, in the form of an amendment to the city charter, to be voted on December 2, that are worthy of serious

onsideration.

It is a question if the proposed amend ment is not inadequate in the matter of protecting the public's interests. The impression is general, I believe, that the purpose of a public market is to bring the producer and consumer into direct relation, and under such condi-tions as will encourage the producer to bring his produce to the market, and the consumer to patronize it. Such being the case, for the producer to at-tend, he must be assured of a low rental, or at least a reasonable one, and an equal chance with other producers using the market, to dispose of his goods. For the consumer to attend the narket must, to attain its purpose, be operated in such a manner that the producers cannot stand in together to control prices, on the one hand, nor the middlemen gain control of the market on the other hand. Without this pro-tection to both producer and consumer, the market will be patronized by neither, except to the loss of the con-sumer. Public markets have proven decided failures in every city in which the producer and consumer were not amply protected by law.

The proposed amendment, placing the erection and management of the public market in the absolute centrol of the City Council, contains the following "The Council is hereby author ized to let or lease the whole or any portion of the space in such public market or markets to any persons de-siring to use the same." You will note there is no provision restricting the use of the market to producers, the measure not barring middlemen and dealers of every kind as should be done. You will also note the amendment permits the Council to "lease the whole or any portion." Leasing the whole of the market would certainly nullify its usefulness. And, for that matter, leasing the different portions of it to different parties would produce the same effect, as the tenants, protected by their leases, could in one way or another stand in together to control prices. As a mat-ter of fact, the proposed amendment authorizes the Council to do those very things which have proven the death knell to public markets in other cities.

voting for public markets is it generally understood that we are to empower the Council "To let or lease the whole or any portion of the spac-in such market or markets to any per ons desiring to use the same?" doubting in the least the integrity of the Council to carry out the wishes of the voters, are these generally understood as the conditions under which we are to provide the money? If our definite wish, expressed at the polls, were enacted by the Council, would not the purpose of public markets be endan-gered? In Toledo, owing solely to the ack of the very precautions to which attention is called, the producers have combined, and sell in large quantities to dealers only, the purpose of the public market having been defeated. Is it generally known that most or certain of the Italian truck-gardeners around. Portland have a marketing

around Portland have a marketing place for their produce on Union avenue? Such is the case. And do these producers cater to the actual consumer? They do not. They sell in large quantities to middlemen, dealers, hawkers, and by 8 A. M. are on their way hack to their truck extends. way back to their truck patches. How many housewives want to buy celery, for instance, by the crate, or under any circumstances, how many will at tend a market between 5 and 8 A. M. In other words, controlling their marcet, they operate it to suit themselves Coming back to our mutton, if we de-sire a public market for the benefit of he consumer we will not get one by "Leasing the whole or any portion" of it. And especially not "to any persons desiring to use" it. TAXPAYER.

#### APPORTIONMENT IS TO DISTRICT Board May, at Option, Transfer Per

Capita for Convenience of Pupils. JENNINGS LODGE, Or., Dec. 2.—(To the Editor.)—Will you kindly and very carefully tell this and other neighborstruction of the school law on this

May all pupils of any school district, in Oregon, which has not a high school in its district use the per capita tax which would be apportioned to them in their district from the irreducible school fund to pay their tuition in another district which has a high school, but which is not a county high school, nor a union high school, provided they have regularly graduated from the eighth grade at home?

to 21 years of age who reside in the district. The directors determine the conditions under which non-resident pupils may attend.

In schools that are not crowded, non resident pupils are often admitted free of charge for tuition. In some instances, the board of a certain district will contract with the board of another for a non-resident pupil to attend school under an agreement to transfer the per capita apportionment, for the year, of the district from which the ing suits. Money will be returned if pupil is sent. This is a matter for the two school boards to decide, and their action is final. A board cannot be required to pay tuition or transfer the per capita apportionment, as here men tioned, but may do so at its option.

School funds are not apportioned to children as individuals, but to school districts as corporate organizations. A pupil of school age who is enumerated in a district does not, because of this fact, acquire control of the per capita apportionment made for the year. Section 105 of Oregon School Laws edition of 1913, is as follows:

The Board of Directors shall admit, free of charge, to the schools of their districts all persons between the ages of 6 and 21 residing therein; and all other persons may be admitted on such terms as the district may direct. may direct. A provision of section 125 of the

school laws reads as follows: The School Board may, at its discretion contract with the Beard of another distrifor the admission of pupis in any school in such other district, on terms agreed on by the two boards; which contract shall be in writing, on blanks furnished by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The expense so incurred shall be paid out of the school funds of the district sending such pupils.

#### Looking Like Rain. Detroit Free Press.

Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, of Yale, is a foe to the purist and the pedant. He who insists on saying "Tomorrow will be Thursday" will find no champion in Professor Louisbury. On a New England vacation, the sultry afternoon, remarked:

"It looks like rain."

A pedant was rocking in a rocking-

chair near by.
"What looks like rain, professor?"
he chuckled. "Ha! ha! I've got you
there! What looks like rain?" "Water." Professor Lounsbury answered, coldly.

Not Safe to Propose.

Threfore Let Consumers Pay the Clerk Hire, Is Argued.

PORTLAND, Dec. 4.—(To the Editor.)
—In the stormy conference Wednesday
between taxpayers and the City Commissioners, Mr. Daly defended his pro-posed acheme of assessing water bills to land owners—instead of to consum-ers—by saying that the water department is operated with the money of consumers, not with that of taxpayers; ilso that taxpayers get service of water for fire protection without paying therefor—that is, consumers carry the

ost of this service, Therefore, reasoned Mr. Daly, land-owning taxpayers ought to be willing to pay the water bills of defaulting consumers.

Such argument is unworthy of an of-ficial in high office; it shows lack of knowledge of the facts of city finance

or disregard of those facts.

The water department, with its debt of bonds, is financed on the credit of the taxpaying city. The property of every taxpayer under the new charter is pledged to pay the principal and interest of the water debt. The property of water consumers is not so pledged, in fact, they and theirs are liable for no part of such debt, except as to their monthly water rent. Now comes Mr. Daly, attempting to relieve when the water department sells

ity, the property of taxpayers of the city. And it points with pride to the total of the assessment roll as evidence of this security. Buyers of these bonds thus see that taxpayers of Portland have guaranteed the payment of principal and interest. Therefore they are willing to buy and to pay high prices. Bear in mind it is not the consumersfor whom Mr. Daly proposes this new business—who in last resort are bound to make good the water debt.

onds it offers to investors, as secur

The water department is financed on the credit of taxpayers and landowners. Moreover, these persons are the ones who pay the \$5000 salary of Mr. Daly and the other Commissioners, although it may be admitted that an-other element of voters may, under certain conditions, carry the balance of power in an election.

The point of all which is that the one and sinew of the water department's finances is the property taxpayers, who guarantee the city' debts and even its running bills. Soph istries about "fire protection" and "tax-paying tenants" ought not to be permitted to becloud the business of the water department.

When taxpayers are mortgaged to bring water from Mount Hood at cos of millions of dollars, it seems reason able that consumers should at least pay clerk hire for collecting the bills. Even though consumers have been paying interest on this debt and pro-viding sinking fund, there is no telling when taxpayers will have to make good to bondholders the guarantee. Abundant loans have been obtained rom bondholders at low rates because owners stand back of the It is taxpayers who are finance ng the big works of the water departig the big works consumers.
LESLIE M. SCOTT.

#### NO POPULAR DEMAND FOR CHANGE Mr. Ackerson Sees Extravagance in Charter Amendment Election.

PORTLAND, Dec. 3 .- (To the Editor.) The Council has placed before the oters of Portland nine amendments to the charter to be voted on December 9. Not one of these amendments was offered to the people because of a popular demand. Three concern jobs it is desired to offer to Eastern men. these amendments corrected serious defects in the charter the voters would not object to the expenditure of

public money for clerks, judges of clections, polling places and printing, bundles fruit trees, a dozen packages amounting to over \$10,000 of the tax-merchandise, a lot of green hides and payers' money, to say nothing of the oss of time to the housewife, business, professional and laboring classes going to and from the polls. The placing of the appointment of Municipal Judge in the hands of the Mayor along with the appointment of the Chief of Police and City Attorney

gives him absolute control of thre-branches of government contrary to our scheme of government. It is the old idea of bureaucracy and is un-Ameri-can. The Municipal Judge should be elected by the people, why don't Mr. hoods the proper intention and con- Albee present to the voters the op portunity to decide this issue? Let us have an explanation from If we are going out of Portland for our engineer and park superintendent why not carry the idea a little further and have an amendment to the charter so that we can select Commissioners from anywhere in the United States? Will the Council call a special election

for that amendment? It is a poor rule that does not work both ways. Mr. Browster presents us with an amendment to spend \$200,000 here. P. D. NEWELLA

All public schools, both grammar grade and high, are free to pupils from the proposed bond issue is for should be proposed be proposed by the proposed bond issue is for should be proposed be proposed by the proposed bend in the city on trees, lights, walks, benchés, door known in the city on the proposed bend in the propo come from the general fund. They are not bonding propositions. No business house would bond to pay its office boy's salary. Bonding for an Inter-state bridge, a Council Crest tunnel, Swan Island removal have merit.

At this time Portland is passing through a serious business crisis and we should not take on too big a load. As Jim Hill says, the country is water-logged with bonds. We are discount-ing the future. We must stop the reckless spending of the people's reckless

oney. Vote no on all bonding amendments. Vote no on all amendments you do not fully understand. Our taxes are 30 per cent higher this year. CHARLES W. ACKERSON.

REPEAL EVERY TAX EXEMPTION Mr. Wright Would Exclude Only Public Property and Burial Lots.

PORTLAND, Dec. 4.—(To the Edi-or.)—Last August The Gregorian published a complete list of real estate exempted from taxes in 1903, furnished by Assessor Reed. The total assess-able value, including public property. was computed at \$15,122,800 Of this \$7,072,485 was private properly belong-ing to churches, clubs, lodges, etc. If the tax rate was 30 mills it would have paid \$212,174, and had it so paid the rate would have been lower and taxes more equitably distributed. In 1913 the value of this non-taxed property will be far greater, and the burden of carrying the load is shifted upon the re maining property in ever-increasing amount, as each year sees more prop erty exempt. It pays nothing for fire or police protection, lights and many advantages, while all who have no interest in it pay the bill for its benefit.

I stand ready to urge any club or lodge to which I belong to support a

constitutional amendment to nothing from taxation but public erty and burial lots. We may let a the burden while he lives. Christ was asked "Is it lawful for us to give tribute to Caesar, or no?" He answered. "Render unto Caesar the things which On a New England vacation, the pro-fessor, gazing out across the lake one sultry afternoon, remarked; be Caesar's and unto God, the things which be God's." How many of the followers of the meek and lowly one are ready to render unto Caesar as he commanded? That is, how many can see the injustice of church exemptions. odge exemptions, club exemptions and say they will pay their just taxes? How many will support the constitutional amendment I propose?

Raise the hand, brethren, the Social-ists would like to count you. This in-justice is one of their arguments against the church. I understand a Houston (Tex.) Post.

"I am just wondering whether it would be safe to propose to that girl I have been going with." "I don't think it would." "What makes you think she would turn me down?" "I don't. I think she would snap you up."

Not Safe to Propose.

justice is one of their arguments against the church. I understand a gainst the church. I u

#### Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of December 5, 1889.
Washington, Dec. 4.—The Postmaster-General has ordered the establishment of free mail delivery at Spokane Falls and Walla Walla, W. T.

Boston, Dec. 4 .- W. R. Hearst, proprietor of the San Francisco Examiner, was quietly married to Theresa Powers in this city a few days ago and the couple have sailed for Europe.

Walla Walla, Dec. 4.-This evening Judge Langford sustained the will of Mrs. John Sheets, over which a spir-ited contest has existed for a lone The deceased was the mother of Mrs. P. B. Johnson

The walls of the Blagen block on North Front street are completed and the work of putting on the roof has

The Oregon Bicycle Club last night The Oregon Sicycle Club last night elected the following officers: President, Dr. C. C. Newcastle; vice-president, W. C. Goodrich; secretary, Dr. B. E. Miller; financial secretary, Lawrence H. Knapp; treasurer, George Breck; captain, Richard Martin, Jr.; sub-captain, C. C. Loucks; bugler, C. W. Scott; color-bearer, W. L. Harman. The club has 40 members. club has 40 members.

The work of filling Couch's Lake has enced at last

Edward Werlein, draftsman in the City Surveyor's office, accidentally wounded his leg with an ax some time since and blood poisoning set in. He has so far recovered as to be able to resume his duties.

An Oregonian reporter talked with about the composition of President Harrison's Cabinet. Nearly all inter-viewed favored an Oregon man, and that Oregon man was Hon. George H. Spokane Falls, Dec. 4 .- Colonel Win-

ston's interest in the Review has been sold to a syndicate in this city, which has also acquired a portion of other interests, so that a majority of the stock is held here. Parties in Port-land still hold some interest in the paper.

S. P. Sladden was in the city yes-terday, but left for Salem on the afternoon train.

General John Gibbon left Portland Monday afternoon for San Francisco. W. H. Brackett, a well known con-ractor of Portland, who has been in Boise for several months, has returned Hon. J. C. Fullerton, of Douglas county, is very favorably spoken of for President of the Senate at the coming session of the Oregon Legislature.

### Half a Century Ago

The State of Washoe .- The political pot is boiling at a high degree of temperature in Nevada Territory. Politickens are prospecting as lively as miners. Every lawyer, first, second and third class, in the territory, is expecting to strike a rich lead in the state when it is pushed up out of the teritorial chaos.

The Oregon yesterday carried away quite a sum of treasure, considering that the Pacific had sailed so recently. We believe that \$750,000 is not too high a value to be placed on the gold on board. The Oregon took away 7000 boxes of apples, 50 boxes eggs, 20 carcontaining specimens of different met-

Quite a crowd was drawn together at the corner of Starr's stove Front street, about 5 o'clock las ning by an affray in which Colonel W. L. White caned Dr. Loryea and only desisted upon the doctor's drawing a

Miss Fanny Morgan and the entire apany that have been performing the Williamette Theater visit The Dalles today.

Articles of incorporation of the Owyhee Gold & Silver Mining Company were filed yesterday by Daniel F. Bradford, R. R. Thompson, Lloyd Brooke and J. C. Ainsworth.

We acknowledge receipt of an elegant chicken supper and fixin's, done up in Bastion's best style, which the "irregulars" enjoyed hugely last night. ent from the Scandinavian restaurant n Holmes, new building, First street The typos passed an unanimous vote of thanks to the proprietor, J. L. Kingsley, Esq.

What 85 Candidates Escaped.

PORTLAND, Dec. 4 .- (To the Editor.) I would at this time extend my sin congratulations to the gentlemen, formerly candidates for Mayor and Commissioner of this mu-nicipality. The sting of defeat must e more than compensated at the hought of the close call they had of eing elected functionaries on perpetual trial before a ructionary court which never adjourns. They are at least at peace with the women, the minlyters, the reform associations and the outraged citizeners. We have been taught that human society is instituted by God; may God have mercy on us; J. HENNESSY MURPHY.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.
"Perkins believes that a man's character can be determined by his handwriting." "I don't remember seehandwriting." "I don't remember : ing any of Perkins' handwriting." ' Perkins always uses a typewriter."

## THE TYPICAL AMERICAN

A composite photograph that cost \$21,000 and four years' effort will be one of many features of The Sunday Oregonian. Taken from 400 typical Americans, drawn from a list of 52,-000, it is the most remarkable of photographs.

## Robert Bar Lord Northcliffe Theodore Roosevelt

These are three prominent writers whose work will be represented.

Peter B. Kyne has a whimsical little story, "A Flyer in Boxes," and there are three other splendid fiction numbers. Page after page of illustrated

special articles are designed to meet every taste and interest. There are three page features of special interest to Port-

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landers.