

AMONG OUR EXCHANGES

There may be ways of amending the primary elections law so that it will be less cumbersome and more easily understood, but the spirit of the law must be retained, leaving the selection of candidates absolutely in the hands of the voting masses of the respective political parties. We protest that any attempt to curtail this power of the people or to substitute a convention system will fail. The people have tested this power; their experience with it, especially in county matters and legislative selections, has been so far satisfactory, and there will be a strong disposition to continue it. The people may tire of the system later, but not yet awhile.—Oregon Statesman.

At the late meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society interest centered upon the apple. Some of those who are more especially interested in pines, cherries, small fruits, etc., felt like the apple was getting more than its due share of attention, but they will have their turn in due time. There are to be two summer meetings of the Society this year, one at Salem in cherry time, and one at Medford in pear time. At these meetings the cherry and the pear will naturally be the centers of attraction and discussion. Walnuts, small fruits and other branches of horticulture have had attention at previous meetings and will have again.—Oregon Agriculturist.

Some of the farmers are of the opinion that the recent cold weather damaged the late fall-sown grain to a considerable extent. A resident of Benton county is quoted as declaring that nine tenths of the grain sowed later than October will be ruined. He bases his contention on the fact that the upper layer of ground is always lifted by freezing and the tender growing sprouts are literally torn asunder by the process. This happened about ten years ago. Anyone having sticky, soggy land, wet when the freeze came, will find it true in the present case. Of course on loamy mellow ground this theory does not hold true and farmers who are fortunate enough to have such fields will probably suffer little from the recent unfavorable weather.—Oregon Statesman.

We learn from some of our exchanges that a number of cities are starting a crusade against the noisy factory whistle. There is one sure way of abating this so-called nuisance, that is by voting the Democratic ticket and giving that party power. A few years ago a man would have to have walked two, or even fifteen miles in the dewy morning before 7 o'clock in order to hear a factory whistle. Now we hear their notes in every city and a number of villages. It seems as though a person who would kick about the noise of a factory whistle, would find fault with the racket of a harvesting of threshing machines. It is the most cheerful music in our broad land, and the notes of no songster is sweeter or more melodious to our ears than the sound of the factory whistle that calls the laborer to his work.—Benton County Republican.

Senator Miller has good bill before the senate, one providing for the loaning of the money of the state in the hands of the state treasurer. It is a notorious fact that in the past history of the state the treasurer has had a fat office on \$800 a year. It is said, and reason, that he has had the money of the state loaned out, receiving the interest amounting to thousands of dollars a year and pocketing it as a part of the income of the office. If a state treasurer did a thing of that character he was honest? Even in the presence of an abominable bank cashier. Under the flat salary rule he could do the same thing and have the advantage of an increased salary unless some provision was made, such as that provided in Senator Miller's bill. The truth is the state has known what the system was, and has practically been a partner in it, else the salary would not have remained at \$800 a year.—Albany Democrat.

The present session of the Legislature bids fair to redeem the reputation of Legislatures in general, in this state, and to lessen the general distrust in which law-making bodies are held. Whether the opinion be well-founded or not, there has long been a feeling that the Legislature misrepresents the people. This idea has found frequent expression not only in the newspapers

of the state, but among the people who take an interest in public affairs. This Legislature is different in several respects from any that has preceded it. Its members were nominated and elected by the people and not in a convention controlled by a boss. The Legislature was organized without the presence of any of the men who have been active figures in the preliminary struggles in years gone by. The Legislature elected Senators on the first ballot and without any candidates at Salem maintaining expensive headquarters where liquor and cigars were provided for all visitors. The two houses have been working two weeks and have gotten along fairly well without the presence of "House bill 104." In other words, a supply of whiskey at a convenient place. It is asserted that there is no liquor to be had in the capitol, and that there will be none throughout the session. The Legislature has manifested from the start a disposition to eliminate the extravagances that have brought criticism upon its predecessors. There is no talk whatever of clerkships held by women of doubtful character. The Legislatures of years gone by have been the ruin of many of their members. Going to Salem from quiet towns where they lived respectable lives, the members were thrown into the company of lobbyists and employees of Senatorial candidates, and were ruined and ruined as they never had been before. In forty days of fast living many of them acquired new ideas of life and were never of use to themselves or their families afterward. Many a man who went to the Legislature rich in reputation, returned to his home a bankrupt. Boodle and booze did the work. This session seems to have started out on a high plane, with no liquor in evidence and no one entertaining lavishly or trying to exert an improper influence upon the members. This session is likely to be a creditable one to its members and to the state.—Portland Oregonian.

Rising From the Grave.

A prominent manufacturer, Wm. A. Ferrell, of Lucena, N.C., relates a most remarkable experience. He says: "After taking less than three bottles of Electric Bitters, I feel like one rising from the grave. My trouble is Bright's disease. In the Diabetic stage, I fully believe Electric Bitters will cure me permanently, for it has already stopped the liver and bladder complications which have troubled me for years." Guaranteed at Chas. Strang, druggist. Price only 50 cents.

School News.

Received too late for last issue.

The second semester begins Monday.

Mid-year examinations have been in progress this week.

Miss Lottie Wiley has had charge of the fifth grade during the past week.

A new four-foot walk has been built around the new building, and a ten-inch gong installed.

Classes in physiology, astronomy and American government are organized for the remainder of the year.

The pupils and teachers deeply sympathize with Edna, Mary and Clarence Gore, in the death of their mother last Monday.

The new desks and tables have been installed at the North school, and are in keeping with the up-to-dateness manifest there.

The seventh grade will occupy the room allotted to it in the North school on Monday, in charge of Miss Gowland. Miss Jennie Snedden will have the division at the main school.

Judge Colvig was a caller at the school building Tuesday. Mr. Colvig is interested in the idea presented in regard to a business department in connection with our High school.

Classes in English will take up the study of Ivanhoe and Tennyson's Pilgrim's Progress. The LeCoversly Idylls of the King, Macaulay's Life of Johnson and Milton's Minor Poems. The advanced German class will read Der Zerbrochene Krug and Ekkehard.

Mr. Odell, representing the New York School Journal, has been taking views of the school for cuts to be used in the Journal. He has had good success with the interiors, and many pupils are purchasing. The cuts, after being used, will be given to the school, on request.

Prof. Signs is utilizing a quantity of slatted cloth blackboard, which the Hyloplast has displaced by making some construction maps. The outlines are made permanent in white paint, and may be used for drill exercises in location of cities, states, etc., and eased for other drills. Ordinarily these maps cost \$1.50 each. A set will soon be available for each building.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following real estate transactions have been recorded since the last issue of this paper.

Grant Holman et ux to O O Holman, interest in land in tp 30 1 E, \$4000. D W Pence et ux to Ed Pence, land in tp 31 1 E, \$1.

R J Edwards et ux to Alice K Frost, a strip of land off lots 4 to 10 blk 111 Talent, \$450.

Florence Kilgore to C C Rounds et ux, lot 3 blk 6 Ashland, \$1200.

J M Lofland et al to H N Lofland, land in tp 36 1 W, \$10.

C N Lofland et ux to H N Lofland, interest in land in tp 36 1 W, \$10.

C N Lofland et ux to J M Lofland, interest in land in tp 36 1 W, \$10.

G S Butler et ux to Henry C Gale, 3008 sq. feet of land and laundry plant, Ashland, \$5,800.

A Mickelson et ux to P P Tucker, land in tp 30 1 W, \$100.

F W Hargrave et al to Sarah Als Poudry et al, .63 acres in tp 38 1 W, \$10.

Sarah Als Poudry et al to H P Hargrave, .27 acres in tp 38 1 W, \$10.

C A Trewbach et al to Jos Samuels 1 acre in tp 37 2 W, \$110.

U S to J H Ellis, land in tp 34 2 W, \$10.

J H Ellis et ux to Colfax National Bank, land in tp 34 2 W, \$1.

W B Comstock to Tute Stone, placer mining claim Forest Creek mining district, \$30.

U S to Chas B Stroup, land in tp 33 3 E, \$1.

L E Stroup et ux to Wm Lyons et al, land in tp 33 3 E, \$1075.

J J Knutzen to Pauline Hines, 139.39 acres in tp 39 4 W, \$500.

Geo Hoffman et ux to J J Knutzen, 153.39 acres in tp 39 4 W, \$1.

N G McVey et ux to Geo Hoffman 80 acres in tp 39 4 W, \$1.

Emma Bolt to Geo Hoffman, 80 acres in tp 39, sec 5 4 W, \$1.

Elizabeth Bolt et ux to Geo Hoffman 80 acres in sec 5 tp 39 4 W, \$1.

G N Bolt et ux to Geo Hoffman 80 acres in sec 5 tp 39 4 W, \$1.

J E Bolt to Geo Hoffman 80 acres in sec 5 tp 39 4 W, \$1.

F K Deuel et ux to H C Garnett .97 acres in Medford \$1.

C A Newstrom et ux to W H Bradshaw land in sec 34 tp 30 2 E \$359.

U S to Nat Hurd, 160 acres in tp 31, 2 E, \$1.

U S to Chas McKinnis, 160 acres in sec 20, tp 33 3 W, \$1.

U S to Otis Hamilton, 170 acres in sec 7 tp 32, 3 E, \$1.

U S to F P Maguire, 170 acres in sec 7 tp 32, 3 E, \$1.

D Perotto to P A Nelson, land in Ashland, \$150.

A D Holman et ux to N F Patton, 1 acre in Ashland, \$250.

P Nelson et ux to C J Brady land in Ashland, \$1000.

THE SHAMROCK.

At One Time It Was Used For Food In Ireland.

That the shamrock was used as diet before it was adopted at the national emblem has been conclusively demonstrated, though in proving the fact one writer borrows from another. Very few drew their information from personal observation. Spencer undoubtedly did, and he is perhaps responsible for the familiarization of this fact to his contemporaries. I quote the passage from "The View of the Present State of Ireland":

"Out of every corner of the woods and glens they came creeping forth upon their hands, for their legs could not bear them. They looked like ghosts crying out of their graves, they did eat of the dead carcasses, and yet they found a plot of water cresses or shamrocks there they flocked as to a feast for the time."

This dietary use was known to the Elizabethan dramatists. I will give thee leave to cram my mouth with shamrocks and butter, and water cresses instead of peash and peas.—Ben Jonson's "Irish Masque."

This Irish footman, a wild kerne, a frog, a dog, whom I'll scarce spurn. I thought you for shamrock?—Thomas Dekker.

"The shamrock thus used for food," says Mr. Colman, "was one or other, or perhaps both, of the meadow clover, or trefoil, Trifolium pratense (purple clover) and Trifolium repens (white clover) of modern botanists."—Notes and Queries.

Making It Clear.

Ho—Will you marry me? She—No; I'm not a clergyman. He—Well, will you permit a clergyman to marry us? She—Yes; you to somebody else, and me to—well, somebody else.—London Tit-Bits.

A Canton Clock.

The famous clepsydra or watch clock of Canton is housed in a temple on the city walls. Three big earthen jars on successive shelves and a fourth and lowest one with a wooden cover constitute the whole clepsydra. The water descends by slow drops from one jar to another, the brass scale on a float in the last jar telling the hours as it rises. Every afternoon at 5 o'clock since 1321 A. D. the lowest jar has been emptied, the upper one filled and the clock thus wound up for another day.

Iron In the System.

It is often said that there is iron enough in the system of an ordinary man to make a plowshare. The statement is exceedingly wide of the truth. The amount of iron contained in the animal tissues of a man weighing 150 pounds is about 100 grains, or a quarter of an ounce. Yet so important is even this small amount to the system that a difference of a few grains more or less may produce serious constitutional disturbance.

A Dilemma.

"Then, Maurizio, tomorrow I will come with my wife to see you both." "Delighted! But look here. Tell your wife not to wear her new diamond earrings or my wife will at once want a pair."

"Oh, the mischief! And my wife was only coming for the purpose of showing them off."—Il Diavolo Ross.

It Couldn't Be.

Dean Farrar once sermonized on having related to him the remark of a farmer who, after hearing a fire and brimstone sermon from an old style preacher, consulted his wife by saying: "Never mind, Sally, that must be wrong. No constitution could stand it."

America's Failings.

America has little of the economic sagacity of England, intellectual acumen of Germany or social rhythm of France.—A. E. Winslip in Armenia.

Don't neglect your cough.
Statistics show that in New York City alone over 200 people die every week from consumption.
And most of these consumptives might be living now if they had not neglected the warning cough.

You know how quickly Scott's Emulsion enables you to throw off a cough or cold.
ALL DRUGGISTS, 50c. AND \$1.00.

A MAN OF LETTERS.
Have Brevity and Beauty of Lincoln's More Notable Addresses.

Nothing would have amazed Mr. Lincoln more than to hear himself called a man of letters, and yet it would be hard to find in all literature anything to excel the brevity and beauty of his address at Gettysburg or the lofty grandeur of his second inaugural. In Europe his style has been called a model for the study and imitation of princes, while in our own country many of his phrases have already passed into the daily speech of mankind.

His gift of putting things simply and clearly was partly the habit of his own clear mind and partly the result of the training he gave himself in days of boyish poverty, when paper and ink were luxuries almost beyond his reach and the words he wished to set down must be the best words and the clearest and shortest to express the ideas he had in view. This training of thought before expression, of knowing exactly what he wished to say before saying it, stood him in good stead all his life, but only the mind of a great man with a lofty soul and a poet's vision, one who had suffered deeply and felt keenly, who carried the burden of a nation on his heart, whose sympathies were as broad and whose kindness was as great as his moral purpose was strong and firm, could have written the deep, forceful, convincing words that fell from his pen in the later years of his life. It was the life he lived, the noble aim that upheld him, as well as the genius with which he was born, that made him one of the greatest writers of our time.—Helen Nicolay in St. Nicholas.

AN ODD DUEL.
It Introduced a Frenchman to the Possibilities of Baseball.

A Frenchman challenged an American to fight. The American, a husky six footer from Yale, who had pitched on the baseball team and stroked the crew, was loath to accept and took the matter as something of a joke. The count pressed his desire for satisfaction, and at last the sea of old Bill consented to meet him, stipulating that he should choose his own weapons. Seconds were agreed upon, and the mode of combat chosen by the American was baseballs at twenty paces. It was dangerously close range for a man who spent three years twirling inshoots and outdroms over a twelve inch plate and likely to be a pretty accurate shot with a baseball, but the Frenchman was game, and they met on the outskirts of the city at daybreak.

Each was to have three shots, and the count was the town and thereby the privilege of leading off. Perhaps he had never seen a baseball before, and, at any rate, the man from Yale had no difficulty in dodging the adamant spheres which the son of Belle France sent sailing in his direction. Then the American opened fire. The first ball grazed the Frenchman's shoulder, the second lodged in the pit of his stomach and the third, an in-shoot, caught him full on the point of the chin. He went down and out and never challenged another American citizen.

No Place For Cramblers.
A man who stands on the street corner chewing and spitting, telling how the government should be run, cursing the town, finding fault with his grand mother because she was a woman, claiming that the merchants are a lot of thieves, that the lawyers and newspaper men would "kill a man to a flash and a whole lot more, is a nuisance and an abomination. Any town pestered with one or more such worthless fellows is justified in exercising civil disobedience on the basis of their trespass. No one is obliged to live where he is not suited. If things don't suit you go where they will. A groveler and a scoundrel in a town is an enterprise killer every time.—Mackerville (Kan.) Enterprise.

Orange Blossoms.
Much uncertainty exists as to why the orange blossom has been so much worn by writers, but the general opinion seems to be that it was adopted as an emblem of fruitfulness. According to some authorities, the practice has been derived from the Saracens among whom the orange blossom was regarded as a symbol of a prosperous marriage, a circumstance which is partly to be accounted for by the fact that in the east the orange tree bears ripe fruit and blossoms at the same time.

Sweetest of All.
Outlute—I tell you, I enjoyed the sleep I got this morning. Fogey—Get out! It's the sleep you get before midnight that does you the most good. Outlute—That may be, but it's the sleep I get after I'm called in the morning that makes me feel good.—Philadelphia Press.

Strayed or Stolen.
A brown horse about eight years old, branded "N" on left hip; also indistinct brand on left shoulder weight about 375 pounds, 15 hands, high, Notified R. H. Whippley, Medford, Oregon, and receive reward.

Two houses and one-half acre in Medford, \$1000. Inquire of W. T. York.

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I also have lots for sale and party will build house; same sold on good terms. \$4000 100-acre farm four miles from Medford; a snap. First-class orchard land close to town, at \$100 per acre. I have the plat of Butte Falls and am prepared to sell lots at reasonable prices. Come and see me before the rush begins.
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