

Published Every Wednesday, by HARDY T. STEWART.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One Copy One Year \$1.50, One Copy Six Months \$1.00, One Copy Three Months \$0.50.

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Too Much Swearing.

Someone has suggested an anti-profanity club for Port Orford. It would be a good thing, swearing is a useless and demoralizing thing. Only a day or two ago a teamster at the local mill could be heard for several blocks threatening to kill his team and making things blue with his profanity. It is needless to say that had he kept his head cool and his mouth shut he could have accomplished better results with his horses. Then again, he was near the road where the school children must pass. In rural districts people shirk applying the law to such cases because of the community feeling engendered. However, a no-swearing club would be a good thing in Port Orford, admitting that its membership would be very, very small at first, and Port Orford is not the only place that would be benefited if public sentiment would put a ban upon excessive swearing and vulgarity.

London Had Faith in Himself.

Jack London, in writing on social evils not long before his death, after telling of his great disappointment when he climbed to where he could move in high society to find it so permeated with sin, hypocrisy and selfishness, writes of his own ideals and faith in mankind in the following striking manner: "I care no longer to climb. The imposing edifice of society above my head holds no delights for me. It is the foundation of the edifice that interests me. There I am content to labor, crowbar in hand, shoulder to shoulder with intellectuals, idealists, and class-conscious working men, getting a solid pry now and again and setting the whole edifice rocking. Some day, when we get a few more hands and crowbars to work, we'll topple it over, along with all its rotten life and unburied dead, its monstrous selfishness and sodden materialism. Then we'll clean the cellar and build a new habitation for mankind, in which there will be no parlor floor, in which all the rooms will be bright and airy, and where the air that is breathed will be clean, noble and alive. Such is my outlook. I look forward to a time when man shall progress upon something worthier and higher than his stomach, when there will be a finer incentive than today, which is the incentive of the stomach. I retain my belief in the nobility and excellence of the human, I believe that spiritual sweetness and unselfishness will conquer the gross gluttony of today. And last of all, my faith is in the working class. As some Frenchman has said, 'The stairway of time is ever scooping the wooden shoe going up, and the polished boot descending.'

CURRENT TOPICS.

By J. H. Upton.

Editor Tribune:

It will prove unfortunate for Alaska that Salpeter, "Democrat" defeated James Wickersham, Republican, for Delegate in Congress from our far north province. Mr. Wickersham has represented Alaska for many terms, and has stood manfully against plagues of graft and plunder hatched out by professional plunderers. The recent scheme was attempted to be put over at a session of Congress during the closing year of Taft's administration, and in pursuance of his recommendation, was to put Alaska under the exclusive control of a "Commission" possessing very extraordinary powers. Mr. Wickersham, though a Republican, exposed the rottenness of the proposition and defeated it. He publicly proclaimed in Washington that if such a Commission was authorized by Congress, there would be nothing left worth going to Alaska for after six months of operations of said Commission; that mines, harbor sites, franchises of all sorts, etc., etc., would speedily fall into the hands of Spoilers and Special Privilege conspirators. But Republicans are said to be ungrateful, and the defeat of a useful man as James Wickersham by a mere political "howler" seems to lend plausibility to such a contention.

For many years members of the California legislature in considerable numbers had been securing appointments to salaried sinecures in different parts of the State, thus, in addition to very ample salaries as Legislators receiving official incomes multiplied by ten. The people complained of the unholy graft, but could get no relief through the legislature. They finally initiated a bill wiping out the abuse, which carried by a big majority on Nov. 7th.

And at the late election several bills increasing salaries of several city officials were voted upon and snowed under in San Francisco. Such is almost uniformly the fate of bills of this sort. The looting and tax-paying public, composed of people whose income from long hours of daily effort does not average \$6000 a year, many of them fully capable of discharging the duties of the majority of official positions themselves, are inclined, when opportunity offers, to pluck the hand that is always out for more. And this fact explains why the County Officers' Combine in Oregon so vigorously antagonizes every proposition looking to the submission to the voters of the county salary increases. And I may as well state here that said Combine has already succeeded in doubling the tenures of many county positions—all of them not limited by the State Constitution—and the limitation the said Combine undertook to overcome by submitting an initiative bill to amend the Constitution in this behalf, which bill was snowed under two years since.

Returning to California, I may add, in reference to the scramble for longer official tenures, that, at the general election two years since, down there an initiative measure increasing judicial tenures from six years to twelve years was indignantly negated by popular vote. The time for that attempt was badly chosen, since a Mr. Cassidy, had just been convicted of fraud in the election of a Supreme Judge in whose campaign he had expended \$18,000 furnished by the candidate who was seeking re-election, and who, himself had already been convicted. When asked by the judge if he had anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon him Cassidy answered, "Nothing, your Honor, further than to suggest that, under the laws of New York State the terms of Judges is long with salaries ranging from \$12,000 to \$14,000 a year, therefore the temptation is great to the large sums of money, simply as a business investment." Thus it will be seen that the people of New York furnish both the money and the incentive by having their highly paid judicial positions.

Twice already the proposition to boost official compensation by popular vote has failed at Portland is unanimously.

Jefferson never tired of insisting that "Eternal Vigilance is the price of Liberty" and the voters of both California and Oregon are quite

permeated that Eternal Vigilance is the price of exemption from the payment of official salaries equal to a King's ransom; yet the lawyers obedient to the Legislature treacherously circumvent them by decreasing salary bills with the "Emergency Clause." Yet, somehow, we go right on carrying trophies in the (party) procession.

With reference to boosting judicial compensation in Oregon it was intimated that the legal salary paid our Judges had failed to attract men of ability to the Bench; a compliment to the men who had set upon the Bench for many, many years and the same who continue to come up smiling every six years for reelection, having complacently overlooked the insult implied in the demand for larger pay. Such doubts, considering the augmented emolument worth the sacrifice. And I have no word of disparagement of the ability and integrity of any of our Judges. What I do object to is the hypocrisy and false pretense resorted to as a cover for the infamy of some, at least, of our lawyer Legislators, themselves looking forward to the time they might become the recipients of the graft they were ostentatiously providing for others.

Langlois, Or.

Home From Away Back.

Copied from the TRIBUNE of December 6th, 1916—Walter Sutton, Editor.

Hon. Agg Crook has been spending a week at Gold Beach.

Rogue river was higher last Saturday than it has been for four years.

Purser Zabusier received a fine amount of lays by the last steamer.

James Turner attended the ball at Haddon on Saturday before last, and reports it a grand success.

W. O. Corbin has returned to his Biggs mines for the winter, and has re-opened in mining. He may come out a gold bug in the spring.

Mr. McKenzie supplies the market with the best hapon we have ever eaten in the country. It is far ahead of any imported bacon ever brought here.

Mrs. Capt. Schwary and son Fred arrived by the steamer last evening on their way to Rogue river. Capt. Schwary and Chauncey Woodruff came via Crescent City.

We are in receipt of a letter from Phil Wilbur. Himself and wife are at Nashua, Iowa. He says the snow and cold weather has come, but that they are enjoying themselves.

Harry and Geo. Guerin of Eckley and Eddy Divelbiss of Biggs, attended the ball in Port Orford last Thursday evening. The Misses Elsie Biglow and Florence Vondergreen were also in attendance.

Sik river was higher last Friday than it has been since the flood of four years ago. Joe Nay's farm was mostly submerged, and the bridge could not be reached on horseback. The mail carrier was forced to cross in a boat and secure a horse on the opposite side.

We have been visited by one of the most severe storms, in point of length, ever known on the coast. It was ushered in on November 29th, and the wind and rain continued almost incessantly, with terrific force until Dec. 1st. Fortunately there was no snow in the mountains, otherwise we would have had a greater flood than last year's ago.

We hope they will soon begin the construction of another raft at Coos Bay. The present raft has been a great help to all the newspapers of the coast, furnishing an interesting weekly news item for an indefinite length of time. The papers must have news, no matter if tugs and sailors do get crippled, wharves smashed up, government works knocked out, buildings go broke and the bar and harbor get a black eye. There's nothing like enterprise.

Teachers' Examination.

Notice is hereby given that the County Superintendent of Curry County, Oregon, will hold the regular examination of applicants for State Certificates at Gold Beach, as follows:

Commencing Wednesday, December 20, 1916, at 9:00 o'clock a. m., and continuing until Saturday, December 23, 1916, at 4:00 o'clock p. m.

Starck Pianos advertisement featuring a 30-day free trial in your own home. Includes details about the piano's quality, price, and contact information for P. A. Starck Piano Co. in Chicago.

How's This? advertisement for Hall's Catarrh Cure, claiming to cure various ailments related to the urinary tract and general health.

Port Orford Furniture & Hardware Store advertisement listing various goods, services, and contact information for the store.

BANK OF POWERS advertisement highlighting services for handling business, banking by mail, and interest on savings accounts.

THE BREAKERS advertisement for an inn located on Gold Beach, Oregon, featuring newly fitted tables and hot/cold tubs.

Langlois Hardware Store advertisement listing a wide variety of hardware, machinery, and sporting goods.

Monarch Malleable advertisement for a full line of stoves, ranges, and other household items.