

# OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE.

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### Congress Should Pass the Irrigation Bill

A Washington dispatch reports that Senator Lodge, who has been the principal champion of the educational test in the immigration bill, is willing to waive that test if the rest of the bill can thus be saved. The correspondent adds that "there are, however, a few senators who may oppose the bill even with the educational provision eliminated," and that "in the present condition of legislation it is generally recognized that the passage of the bill is impossible unless all opposition is removed."

The unpromising status of the measure may be ascribed in great part to the timidity of politicians and possibly also to interested motives springing from another cause. The fear of a certain public sentiment has been aroused among them by the protests of citizens of foreign birth, who have regarded the bill as a barrier to the people of their blood. The influence of the transportation companies is decidedly hostile to the bill and it would not be surprising if it had made itself felt even in the halls of Congress.

It requires no argument to prove that this latter factor in the case should be ignored, but it is desirable that something should be said on the subject of the protests. Some of them have been made undoubtedly under a misapprehension. There have been German protests, for example, when the Germans have had nothing to fear. As regards the educational test they should be reassured by the fact that the percentage of illiteracy among German immigrants was but 3.2 in 1899, 5.8 in 1900 and 4.1 in 1901, and by the further fact that the test does not prevent the entrance of illiterates for the reunion of families, since they are privileged by the law. What remains of the law is certain provisions concerning health, character and industrial fitness, which should hardly arouse the opposition of any person who desires the welfare of the country.

But aside from the interests or supposed interests of any race, all the provisions of the bill, including the educational test, would seem to be reasonable, and there is a special reason for the test at this time, not because of a hostility to any race as such, but because of the frightful illiteracy of the present immigration. Seventy per cent of that immigration consists of elements from 20 of 60 per cent illiterate. The latest statistics show not only that the percentage holds good but that the actual number of people from the illiterate regions of Europe bids fair to equal the highest records made by the regions in which education is well-nigh universal. Now, if ever, is certainly the time to enact the bill into a law, and if it should not be passed Congress will have been false to a great public duty.

### Low Birth Rate in the United States.

The assertions of Dr. Shredy concerning the low birth rate among Americans of American ancestry are partly indorsed by official deductions which appear in the reports on the last census. Volume II part II on population presents tables which indicate that the rate is considerably higher among persons of foreign parentage than it is among those of native parentage, and declares that "the changes in the age constitution of the native elements of the population are caused principally by a decrease in the fecundity of native-born women of native extraction." These changes show a decline in the proportion of children reported for the first years of life, and the report adds that while the loss may be due in a measure to omissions and misstatements, to a slight decrease in the number of marriages for American women and to the postponement of marriage to a later period in life, all these causes are of inferior importance to the one first named.

A summary is then given which shows "that from 1890 to 1900 there was an aggregate increase in the native white population of 10,615,988, or 23.1 per cent; but after excluding the children less than 10 years of age both of whose parents were of foreign birth the numerical increase is reduced to, approximately, 7,379,192 and the percentage of increase to 16." The effect of the exclusion is particularly noticeable in the North Atlantic division, where the change in percentages is from 20.0 to 9.5. In other parts of the country this change is: South Atlantic, 20.5 to 19.6; North Central, 21.1 to 12.8; South Central, 29.9 to 28.4; Western, 41.5 to 32.5.

If the population tables for this state are examined and the percentages figured out it will be found that

Illinois follows the general rule. It not only has a very large native white population of foreign parentage, 31 per cent of the whole, but there are among these people a relatively greater number of children under 1 year and under 4 years and 10 years than among the people of native parentage. Where there is such a tendency the dependence upon immigration now the increase for the United States as a whole would be abnormally small.

We quote the following on the subject from an article in The Nineteenth Century, to which we referred some time since: "As late as 1840 the increase in the population by reproduction was 28.01, by immigration, 4.66. By 1890 the first had dwindled to 14.40 and the second had increased to 10.46." During the latter part of the decade 1890-1900 there was a decline of immigration, and as result the census returns on population showed "a relatively smaller increase than the figures of any previous decade since the Declaration of Independence."

Thus the fact of a low birth rate seems to be pretty well established. Why there is an aversion for large families is another story.

### What Socialism Means in this Country.

The professional socialists must be highly elated by the attacks upon their theories, which are increasing rapidly in number and virulence. For such an agitation betokens interest unquestionably and possibly a real apprehension lest there should be a complete reconstitution of the government on socialistic lines.

But the socialism that is being applied in a tentative way is not the outgrowth of text-books and written systems, and it gives no just cause for worrying over "logical results" or ultimate effects of any kind. Nothing could illustrate more aptly the determination of a practical people to act as conditions rather than as theories suggest. There is a growing sentiment in favor of municipal ownership simply because the abuse of private ownership has become intolerable, and reflection upon the condition has shown that the public's rights have not been properly considered in the granting of franchises. One of the consequences may be a broader and bolder theorizing as to the public's rights, but that does not imply a mad rush after Eutopian schemes. It is merely a notification that the field for exploiting the people in the interest of very shrewd and acquisitive individuals is to be somewhat narrowed.

The same tendencies which are observable outside the domain of municipal activities must be attributed to a like cause. It is perfectly clear that the increased favor which has been given the proposition for state ownership of coal mines is due to the conditions growing out of the strike. The people have been driven to consider the subject by a gross abuse of their rights and an exasperating indifference to their needs. And while they know there are great practical difficulties in the way of state ownership and that it would present serious problems of its own, they are coming to regard it as a preferable alternative to the indifference and the abuse.

In such cases socialism does not appear first as an all-compelling principle. The principle is tested after the fact and the application of the principle is approved only in so far as it may seem reasonable. It is still a long way to the condition in which the government shall own "everything," and the public opinion and public policy of the future will depend upon the public experience.

THERE has been grave rumors the past week concerning the health of Senator Mitchell. He has been a very sick man but it is believed he is much better at present. It would be hard to replace Senator Mitchell in the senate with a man that could do as much for Oregon. His long experience has done much and his ability more for this state. When a state secures a man in the senate that can do as much for it as Mitchell can, it had better keep him there. A man might be a better speaker or a more profound thinker but few men of the senate have the ability to accomplish results as easily as Mitchell does. The ugly rumors concerning his health have caused much uneasiness and the legislature has talked of adjourning over so that there could be no democrat appointed by the governor if he should die. The latest reports are that he is better. Certainly it is hoped that he may recover rapidly as Oregon has need for his services.

GALLOWAY'S bill for preserving the blockhouse on the Grand Ronde Indian reservation and authorizing the Oregon Historical Society to obtain possession of it is a meritorious measure. This blockhouse, believed to be the only one left in Oregon, was built at a very early date, and many military men who afterward became famous were stationed there at various times, among them being General Phil Sheridan, General W. B. Hazen, General A. J. Smith, General Joe Wheeler, General David A. Russel and Fighting Joe Hooker. General Grant also visited the place. We are prone to neglect objects of historic interest. This landmark, of great interest on its own account and also for its associations, ought to be preserved, and the Oregon Historical Society is its logical custodian. It is to be hoped that Representative Galloway's bill will receive favorable consideration from the legislature.—Oregonian.

THE senatorial election at Salem stands about the same. Little or no change taking place. With next Monday begins the last week and something must be done to end the struggle or go without an election. It is believed there will be an election but as to the man there seems to be little light.

# CAUGHT BY THE GRIP. RELEASED BY PE-RU-NA.

## Congressman Geo. H. White's Case. A Noted Sculptress Cured.



The world of medicine recognizes Grip as epidemic catarrh. - - Medical Talk.

Mrs. Celeste Covell writes from 219 N. avenue, Aurora, Ill.:

"Only those who have suffered with la grippe and been cured can appreciate how grateful I feel for such a splendid medicine as Peruna, has been placed at the door of every suffering person."—Mrs. C. Covell.

### Noted Sculptress Cured of Grip.

Mrs. M. C. Cooper, of the Royal Academy of Arts, of London, England, now residing in Washington, D. C., is one of the greatest living sculptors and painters of the world. She says:

"I take pleasure in recommending Peruna for catarrh and la grippe. I have suffered for months, and after the use of one bottle of Peruna I am entirely well."—Mrs. M. C. Cooper.

D. L. Wallace, a charter member of the International Barber's Union, writes from 15 Western avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.:

"Following a severe attack of la grippe I seemed to be affected badly all over. "One of my employers who was greatly helped by Peruna advised me to try it, and I procured a bottle the same day. Now my head is clear, my nerves are steady, I enjoy food and rest well. Peruna has been worth a dollar a dose to me."—D. L. Wallace.

Lieutenant Charles Hunt, of the Salt Lake City Barracks of the Salvation Army, writes from Ogden, Utah:

"Two months ago I was suffering with so severe a cold that I could hardly speak. "Our captain advised me to try Peruna and procured a bottle for me, and truly it worked wonders. Within two weeks I was entirely well."—Charles Hunt.

### Congressman White's Letter.

Tarboro, N. C. Gentlemen—I am more than satisfied with Peruna and find it to be an excellent remedy for the grip and catarrh. I have used it in my family and they all praise it in recommending it as an excellent remedy."—George H. White, Member of Congress.

Mrs. T. W. Collins, Treasurer, Independent Order of Good Templars, of Everett, Wash., writes:

"After having a severe attack of la grippe I continued in a feeble condition even after the doctor called me cured. My blood seemed poisoned. Peruna cured me."—Mrs. T. W. Collins.

If you do not desire prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The H. W. Hartman Co., Columbus, O.

A GRIPPE is epidemic catarrh. It spares no class or nationality. The cultured and the ignorant, the aristocrat and the pauper, the masses and the classes are alike subject to la grippe. None are exempt—all are liable.

Have you the grip? Or, rather, has the grip got you? Grip is well named. The original French term, la grippe, has been shortened by the busy American to read "grip." Without intending to do so a new word has been coined that exactly describes the case. As if some hideous giant with awful Grip had

clutched us in its fatal clasp. Men, women, children, whole towns and cities are caught in the baneful grip of a terrible monster.

Peruna for Grip. Mrs. Theophile Schmidt, wife of the Ex-Secretary of the German Consulate, writes the following letter from 347 Wabash avenue, Chicago, Ill.:

"I suffered this winter with a severe attack of la grippe. After using three bottles of Peruna I found the grip had disappeared."—Mrs. T. Schmidt.

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