PROGRESS OF GOVERNMENT IN 100 YEARS

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THE OREGONIAN'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE: DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON

COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF TWO CENTURIES

IX.

Modern Monarchies.

The century has witnessed the birth of two great powers of Europe through a process of unification of unimportant states which had hitherto been bound together by ties of blood and common racial traditions. These are Germany and Italy. Until our century a German Nation was simply a dream of patriots of common language and instincts. But through the genius of Stein and Bismarck the dream has materialized in a great federal monarchy, with an Emperor whose large prerogative is overshadowed by the supreme will of the people as expressed in Parliament.

Meantime the states of the Italian Peninsula have been welded together by Victor Emmanuel, by Count Cavour and by Garibaldi, and another monarchy of the modern type has taken its place among the great powers. In these monarchies and in all others of Europe save the mighty states of half-civilized Russia the spirit of the century has inspired the people to demand and to exact by revolution if necessary a liberal measure of self-government through a representative Parliament.

Party Machinery.

In the application of the theory of democratic government which has characterized the period under review the organization of political parties has been the chief factor. The party machine, with all its notable virtues and manifold vices, is a product of our century. It is true that Sir Robert Walpole before the middle of the last century organized party government in England, but the machinery of parties was very crude 100 years ago. In our own country we have constructed since 1800 the most perfect system of party organization, in theory, which exists in the world. Our plan of erecting a series of nominating conventions and executive committees on a basis of party primaries is unimpeachable in principle, and this elaborate system is a typical development of this century.

Political Parties and Civil Service.

In the evolution of party machinery to operate free government every country passes through an era when the spoils system runs riot. The early English parties inherited the spoils system from the regime of personal monarchy, which the party system displaced. The King was often moved by other considerations than those of fitness in bestowing office, and it was not unnatural that when political parties took the appointing power from the monarch they should follow the royal example in bestowing patronage. In America the spoils system crept into the politics of some of the states, notably New York, very early in our history, but it did not invade the Federal system until the time of Jackson.

Like other evils, the spoils system provokes reaction by excess. In England a democracy of growing intelligence demanded the merit system about the middle of the century, and in America a generation later an outraged people began to move on the spoilsmen. Great Britain has completely purged her civil service of the taint of spoils; we have made an excellent beginning in this country. The victories of civil service reform in these and other countries must surely be reckoned among the most important governmental achievements of our century.

Ballot Reform.

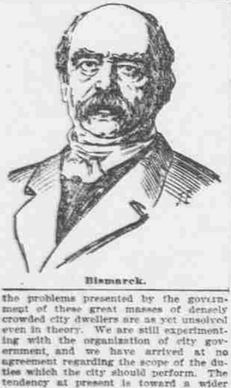
Another political product of our era is the secret ballot system. From one point of view this may seem too trivial to cite in this rapid review of political development, but since free and fair elections are the only sure foundation of popular government, the introduction of a plan which guarantees such elections must be regarded as one of the notable political events of our time.

Some Radical Proposals.

Two important and far-reaching modifications of political practice have been eagerly discussed during the closing years of our century, but they have received practical application on only a very small scale. These are the initiative and referendum and proportional representation. The system of initiative and referendum, which represents the closest possible approach to pure democracy, has been successfully applied in Switzerland for many years and has been used to a very slight extent in local government elsewhere. The plan of proportional representation, which aims to secure accurate reflection of all distinct shades of public opinion in a community, has just been adopted in Belgium and is in operation in a small way in a few other places. But the general realization of these newer plans for the improvement of democracy must figure as one of the political achievements of the 20th century. The 19th can claim only the conception of the ideas and the discussion of the ideals.

The Municipal Problem.

The briefest review of the century would be woefully incomplete if it did not mention the new and puzzling element which has been injected into the governmental problem by the recent marvelous growth of great cities. The statistics of the remarkable growth of city population have been quoted so often that it is not necessary to cite them here. The facts are familiar to all. Many of the problems presented by the government of these great masses of densely crowded city dwellers are as yet unsolved even in theory. We are still experimenting with the organization of city government, and we have arrived at no agreement regarding the scope of the duties which the city should perform. The tendency at present is toward a wider and wider field of municipal activity.



Bismarck.

Growing Importance of Government.

And this introduces us to the final consideration in this review—the development of the functions of government during the last 100 years. As we survey the governmetal field from this point of view we note that our century, especially the latter half has been marked by a rapid increase of the duties undertaken by public authorities. In 1800 the duties of government were comparatively few and simple. It was expected to do little except protect life and property. But as the modern industrial system developed it became evident that the scope of public authority would have to be extended to the regulation of industry in the interest of the weaker classes. The factory acts of England furnish an excellent illustration of this extension of function. Gradually this interference with what formerly was purely private business has increased. Governments have undertaken industrial enterprises, such as railroads, telegraphs and telephones. At the same time public supervision of private business has been extended in many directions. The recent growth of great combinations has given impetus to this movement, for the people have become alarmed at the possibilities of abuse of the tremendous power wielded by corporation managers, and have appealed to the government for protection through public regulation.

Meantime the growth of great cities has made new demands for the extension of public activity within the municipality. The distinctively monopolistic services such as street railways and lighting plants, are now operated by many cities, and even where the operation is in private hands the municiplity exercises strict control in all intelligent communities. Moreover, municipal authorities are now assuming responsibility for the proper housing of the poorer citizens, for the care of their health and for the provision of recreation. Thus both the general and the local governments have occupied fields of usefulness far wider than those of 100 years ago, and the process of extension is still going on with apparently increasing rapidly.

Count Cavour.

New Responsibilities of Democracy.

It is apparent, then, at the close of the century that the social forces are conspiring to make government more and more vital to the citizen. Thus the responsibilities of democracy, which have already increased so greatly, are becomring heavier each year. But a review of the history of the last hundred years affords ground for a rational confidence that these responsibilities will be squarely met and successfully discharged. There has been much discussion lately of the weaknesses of democracy and its possible failure to respond to the increased demands upon its intelligence which the more complicated governmental system of our day is making. Especially in America there is much pessimistic comparison of the depravity of the present with the simple virtues of the past. The statesmen of the early days of the Republic, viewed through the haze of distance are transfigured and the men who chose these paragons to administer their government share by reflection the glory of their leaders. But the historian who is under no illusions writes most vivid essays on the political depravity of the fathers. It is, unhappily, true that it is not necessary to search very long in the political system of even the most enlightened nations of our day to discover glaring defects. But a careful and candid examination of the politics of our forefathers reveals shortcomings and positive evils of so much more serious nature than those we wrestle with that the observer becomes very hopeful for the future as he marks the progress of the past.

Frederic W. Speirs

Philadelphia.

SURE TO TAKE THEM OUT.

What to Use When Water Won't Remove Stains.

New York Herald.

Rub mildewed spots well with lemon juice and salt and expose to a hot sun. The most delicate fabrics will be unharmed. The spots will disappear.

For removing grease spots take equal parts of strong ammonia water, ether and alcohol. To prevent the ring forming about the clean spot, rub with a cloth slightly dampened with the same solution. In other words, rub out the ring. If the cloth is too wet it will only make another one.

When varnish gets on any garment the cleansing should be done as soon as possible. Wet the varnish thoroughly with alcohol two or three times and then sponge off with a clean cloth. If the color has been affected the material should be sponged with chloroform, unless the color is blue. Then vinegar or acetic acid should be used instead of the chloroform. Both of these are hard on the hands and should be used with caution. Muddy spots on white dresses may be removed by washing in a solution of carbonate of soda in water. Lay the soiled part on a cloth and sponge well.

One often notices on new linen yellow stains left by the sewing machine. Such garments should not be put into the wash until the spots have been well rubbed with liquid ammonia. Repeated applications of fresh lard or butter will come as near as anything to removing tar, though a spot is almost always left.

Fine linen is continually in danger of iron rust, and unless such spots are attended to at once there is little hope of removing them.

Soak the spot well, as if for general washing, pass a hot iron over a wet cloth and when the latter steams well put it under the stained garment. Then on the upper side of the goods rub a little oxalic acid where the spots show. The action of the acid is hastened by the heat and the moisture. The rust disappears. Then the whole garment should be washed with soap.

Paint on woolen clothing may sometimes be removed by rubbing the spot with the same cloth. It is supposed that the paint disappears in the fuzz produced by the rubbing. If this is not successful try turpentine.

Blood stains are about as difficult as any to get out. Here starch comes into use. Make a thin paste and spread on the stain. Leave it to dry. Then brush off. Generally the stain will go with the starch. The worst stains, however, will require several applications of the starch.

Scorched clothes are often discarded as hopeless, but if not too much burned may be made all right by the patient use of onion juice. Bake the onion and squeeze out the juice. Mix it with an ounce of fuller's earth, a little shredded soap and a wineglassful of vinegar. Heat the mixture till the soap is dissolved. Then wait till it is cold before applying. Rub it well over the scorched place, leave to dry and then put the garment in the regular washing.

It is sometimes difficult to remove large coffee stains. First pour boiling water through the stain, then dip the spot in strong ammonia water, rinse in cold water, and put out in the sun to bleach. For tea stains nothing is needed but plain water.

Often the shrinking effect of rain drops seems to have ruined light silks, when all that is required is to iron the silk on the wrong side with a piece of muslin between the goods and the iron.

Sent to Study Mechanics.

One of the interesting things in Germany this Summer is the remarkable exodus of Germans to the Paris Exposition, says a Paris correspondent in the Brooklyn Eagle. There has been an enormous flow of travel across the Rhine all Summer, so that all the railways leading to Paris from Germany have had to increase their passenger train service; and besides this many extra trains have

been run. Recently such a train carried 400 students of German technological institutions to Paris. In many cases funds have been appropriated by municipalities and manufacturing companies for carrying high-class artisans to Paris to study the mechanical progress shown there.

In Paris, as the German correspondents report, there are swarms of Germans, and everywhere they are in evidence. The evidence, as the correspondent admits, is not always of a kind to flatter the national vanity of Germans—it consists of oddities of dress and mustache. The sober, slow-going German, who spends his life at a desk and never goes hunting, thinks he must don a huntsman's garb when he goes off traveling, and so one of the unwonted sights of Paris this Summer is the German in a baggy suit of dull green and wearing a small conical green hat with a feather in it.

The German of another type is also much in evidence through his overtrained mustache, of the style which originated with Haby and was first made famous by the Kaiser. And the German woman, alas, is conspicuous for her ill-fitting dress, bad in taste as to color and style. So say the correspondents, and every American of some experience in Germany will easily believe the correspondents.

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AMERICANS IN EUROPE

THEY SWARM OVER THE WHOLE CONTINENT.

How American Girls Get About—Experiences of a Vacation Tourist—No Place to Spend a Life.

BERLIN, Aug. 1.—Never in the history of American travel has there been such an exodus of tourists as at the present time. The cities, towns, museums, churches, galleries, streets, boats and trains swarm with them. You cannot walk two steps in any given direction without bumping up against one or more of these feathered globe-trotters (I call them feathered because they are always on the "fly") gazing up at some massive structure, Baedecker in hand, or studying their location from a city map spread out before them. The native born, to whom these accustomed sights do not appeal, gazes with an amused smile at these walking interrogation points, wondering what in the world they can find of interest in those old buildings, that are rotting with decay, and goes off laughing in his sleeve at what he considers the foreigners' grand simplicity. Well, such is the world. The vacation tourist travels about as though the earth were being spread out for his special amusement, to be stared at, criticised or ridiculed, and does not dream that he himself is furnishing a like spectacle to the natives; that they are having as much fun out of him as he is out of them, and in nine cases out of ten with more reason. But there is no doubt that with all his faults, the foreigner loves the American still, for the average United States citizen likes to spend money, and an open purse is an open sesame to the heart of a foreigner.

That is one advantage that the American enjoys while traveling in Europe. He might be a millionaire with money to burn, or only a poor schoolteacher traveling on his five years' savings, it is all one to a foreigner; he will fleece the second as readily and willingly as the first, and with as much scraping of feet and head-bobbing as though he were not only rolling in wealth but a prince of noble blood into the bargain. Oh, yes, they know how to do it, but so do the Americans. And it often makes those heads bob a little livelier and hands spread out in angry gesticulations when the sheckles do not come in as readily as expected. We had a very amusing experience while in Venice. We happened to get in with a German lady and her son, charming people, full of life and wit, who had traveled extensively and knew something of the ways of the Italians. It being a fine day we made up a little party of five and instructed our gondolier to row us over to the Lido, the popular bathing resort of Venice. We payed the regular entrance fee to the grounds, but when we arrived there we were told that it would cost us 5 lire more to go down to the beach.

'Nonsense!" cries our German friend, indignantly. "We don't wish to buy the beach," and with that she walked off, the rest of us following her lead.

"I know these Italians," continued our friend, as we kept on the road to the left; "they've put up that gate for the poor little flies who don't know enough to keep out of traps set for their destruction. There must be another way to get to the beach besides that gate, and I am going to find it." And find it she did after a ten minutes' walk, and we chuckled when we found ourselves inside the charmed circle, 5 lire richer than we were outside it. But our troubles were not over, for we had brought our lunch, and on looking about for a place to spread it, saw nothing but a long row of bathhouses fitted up with tables and chairs and covered with a canvas awning.

"Just the thing!" cried Mrs. Himsted; "we'll find one that is unoccupied."

"But they are private property," expostulated my friend; "the owners will object if they come up and find us using their furniture."

"That is nothing. If they come we will simply say we didn't know they were occupied, apologize and leave, for by that time we will have finished our lunch and won't care to take the hut with us."

We were quite willing to follow her advice, as our appetites had become quite unmanageable from our long walk and the sea breeze, so at the farther end of the beach we found a promising looking hut, and at once started to work. All went well until we came to the second course, when we suddenly spied the tall form of an officer approaching our way, and at once surmised the object of his solicitude.

"Keep mum!" whispered our German friend, raising a warning finger to her lips, "he probably recognizes us as strangers, and will demand a fee for our use of this hut. But we do not understand Italian, remember. Just leave me to manage him."

With perfect confidence in our friend we assumed a most innocent front and continued with our feast. Presently the evil one approached, and asked us in German whether we had payed for the use of the hut. Mrs. Himsted threw up her hands to signify that she did not understand, at which the officer very blandly held out his hand and imitated by gesture that he wanted 5 lire. But we were very dense just then and finally, when we saw the poor man was losing patience and waxing wroth, we smilingly invited him to partake of a glass of wine with us. Never did I see such a look of utter disgust cross a man's face. He shrugged his shoulders, walked indignantly over to the gate and locked it.

"Now we are in it!" cried the young man, with a laugh. "He couldn't make us pay to come in, so he is going to charge us to get out. Quite a novel idea."

"Pack up the things and follow me," replied our guide. "I got you in; I'll get you out." And watching for a chance when the officer was out of sight, we gave one simultaneous bound and "lit" on the other side of the fence. It was not a particularly graceful performance, but it served its purpose, and the glory of the chase was ours. There are many ways of "doing" Europe, and this is one of them.

Now, while I am on this subject, I just want to tell you that if there is an ideal spot in the world it is Venice. Give me England for quiet, peaceful domesticity, Paris for gaiety and fun, Switzerland and Germany for poetic stimulus, Florence for art, but Venice—yes, Venice is for lovers. Venice at night on the Grand Canal, with its lights, its music, its black gondolas lazily floating on the surface of the quiet waters, the white, picturesque costumes of the gondoliers, the colored lanterns of the musicians' barges from which the sweet voices ring out into the night—Venice at such times has a charm that can only be felt, not described. The night of our entrance we passed a gondola in which reclined in rather close proximity a young man and what seemed to us his young bride. Their boxes, marked "Boston," directly caught our eye, but before we could address them the young man anticipated us by asking how we were enjoying the ride.

"Very much, indeed. Are you?"

"Oh, I could stay out here all night like this," he replied, with an ecstatic smile, and we didn't marvel at it when we saw the happy face of his young companion, who was reclining in his embrace, and the evidence was borne in upon us that they were in their honeymoon.

There is only one way to "do" Venice properly, and that is to engage a gondola the moment you arrive and keep it by the day. Not only is it much cheaper than renting it by the hour, but it is also much pleasanter and more advantageous; for you thus make a friend of the gondolier, who will feel that he belongs to you, and wait upon you like a slave. Moreover, he can give you more information about Venice in an hour than you could learn from a guidebook in a week, and with a little knowledge of French you can dispense with an interpreter. There are many ways of traveling, and though some no doubt are pleasanter than others, all are equally easy. For instance, some travel in large crowds, some in small, congenial parties, and others again independently or entirely alone. This year ,owing to the extensive advertising done by the tourist companies, most of the exodus is in flocks. This mode of seeing Europe may have its advantages, I have not yet discovered them, but as to its disadvantages they are quite apparent and numerous. But perhaps you are considering the proposition because it seems cheap, and having no idea of the cost of such a trip you are afraid to venture it upon your inexperience, and prefer to be "guided." Well, then, take your choice. If you are content to be rushed through the principal cities of Europe, like a bird on the wing, started out of your sleep at 4 o'clock in the morning in order to catch an early train, pushed in a fever heat through art galleries, museums and churches, in constant anxiety lest, if you stop to look at a picture, you will be separated from your party, chased home on a dead rush, entering the hotel worn out and dusty, given five minutes to brush up, then driven into the dining-room, like so many sheep to the slaughter, out again to "do" the castles and parks, then off once more on the train to make another city and go through the same routine—I say, if this kind of thing suits you, well and good. Join an excursion party and get your money's worth in point of quantity. You will certainly see more places in a given time than you could traveling by yourself, but whether you will be any the wiser in the end is yet a matter of doubt.

Then there is another way of "doing" Europe. It is adopted quite frequently, namely, a la Baedecker. It is done this wise: You come to Europe. You buy a guide-book. You enter, let us say, a picture gallery. Naturally the artists and the paintings are strange to you and there is nothing to guide you but a number. You look at the number, you consult your guide-book, you read that this is a very famous painting by Tintoretto called Paradise and you read on, so that its history becomes known to you. Then you go on to the next picture and do the same thing. It is not necessary to glance at the pictures because they don't tell you anything anyway, and it would be only a waste of time and time is so precious, you know. A great many people travel in this way (I have observed with my own eyes), and no doubt find it very profitable. At least, they can go home and talk very nicely on what they have seen abroad—in a guide-book!

The majority of tourists belong to the so-called weaker sex, but any one who has once felt their knuckles and elbows as they push their way through the crowds at the wharves and railway stations, would be inclined to question their "weakness." They certainly know how to "get there" without the help of their natural protectors. But traveling in Europe is not such a vast undertaking as so many people imagine. It is, on the contrary, quite simple, and in the case of a novice who has never been to Europe before, requires only a little brain and foresight. A great many people, on finding out that we two girls were traveling about alone, opened their eyes in amazement and inquired if we were not afraid.

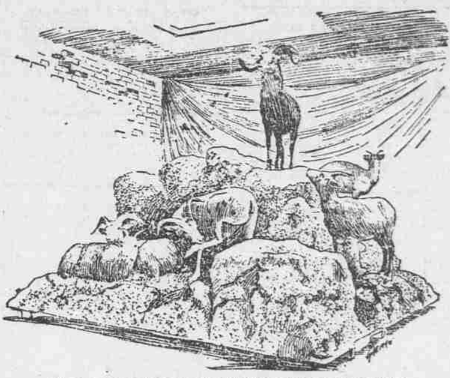
"Afraid of what?" asked my friend innocently of one lady who put the question.

"Oh, of everything. It must take such courage in you to venture alone so far from home."

But I calmly assured her that we hadn't seen any wild bears except in cages, and the only army of soldiers he had had to face were those we met on the parade grounds.

On the whole it is more comfortable and certainly much pleasanter to travel independently, to go when and where you like and stay as long as you please; and as for getting along, I must say that wherever we have gone we have met with the utmost courtesy and politeness and that we never once had to ask a service in vain. As to troublesome adventures, which some sensational writers are fond of exaggerating, we have had no more disagreeable experiences than that of having to chase around to the custom-houses with our baggage under our arms, and considering that we took occasion to burden ourselves with as little as possible of this awkward article, we got off much easier than did the majority of travelers. So that there is no reason why a young girl with any pluck at all about her and a little common sense shouldn't

C. E. AKELEY'S GROUP OF BLACK ALASKAN SHEEP.



TO BE EXHIBITED AT THE FIELD COLUMBIAN MUSEUM.

be able to get about Europe comfortably. Let me tell you what one young girl did. I won't mention her name, but after you hear it you won't need to be told that she is an American.

She had to travel a long distance on the train over night, and not wishing to engage a sleeping car, as they are so very high-priced, she and a friend who was with her stretched themselves full length on the seats. To everybody who entered to take a seat she told the same story—that the compartment belonged to her, and they would have to find places elsewhere. Most of them took it in good part and left, but one old lady seemed to doubt the statement that the whole compartment was paid for, and said she would ask the conductor. However, the young girl held her ground and when the conductor came around she cooly told him that they were two young girls travelling alone; that they desired to sleep, and didn't wish any one put into their compartment. She was told it wouldn't be possible; that the cars were crowded, and that if any lady entered she should be allowed to stay.

"Oh, but it is possible," insisted the young lady. "You can fix it up if you want to by saying we have paid for the compartment. And we will pay for it—we will pay you." And she forthwith showed him a piece of money.

It worked like a charm. The conductor smiled and left. A couple of hours later he returned to say that he would have to change their compartment, as there were too many people getting on, but he would give them a better car. He evidently liked the looks of the money, for he put them in a first-class car, though they were traveling second, and gave them the use of the entire compartment for the night. It is worth while knowing that America is not the only land where bribery works. And after this, let no one say that girls cannot take care of themselves.

One of the peculiarities of travel on this continent is that you are always running across people you have met before. You part from pleasant companionship at one station, never expecting to see them again, and after a few days perhaps, lo! and behold, there they are once more. And how happy you are to see them; just as though they had been life-long friends instead of only chance acquaintances.

But with Americans it is not even necessary that they should have met before. Merely to see them out nere makes you long to shake the hand of fellowship. And you don't wait for an introduction, either. Here is the way they greet each other:

Two trains, bound for opposite points, meet at a railway station. Both are crowded with tourists. Necks are craned to catch a glimpse of the people in the other car. All of a sudden the Stars and Stripes loom up big and conspicuous on some one's coat collar or shirt waist, and immediately there is a cry from the other car:

"U. S. A.?"

"Yes—you?"

"You bet. Where from?"

"Oregon. You?"

"New York."

"Good. Big party?"

"Yes—50 of us—European travelers—four months—grand tour—glorious time. Going up the Alps. Been there?"

"Just come from the Rigi. You'll like it. Well, here we go. Isn't it jolly?"

"Great! Good-bye."

"Good-bye."

"Hurrah for America!"

"Three cheers for Uncle Sam!"

And the Stars and Stripes do the rest.

I am going to tell you a secret. When I left home two months ago, to take this trip I thought there were hundreds of places out here more attractive to live in than America, that we didn't understand how to make life pleasant, but wasted our best years in the effort to court the mighty dollar. Well, I've changed my mind. Better one year in America than a cycle of Europe. I tell you that Europe is good enough to travel in, but when it comes to spending one's life in a place, give me America every time. SOPHIE REINHART.

Hirschfield Acquitted.

HELENA, Mont., Aug. 23.—L. H. Hirschfield, ex-president of the Merchants' National Bank, of Helena, was acquitted today after a two weeks' trial on the charge of making false reports to the Controller of the Currency as to the bank's condition. The verdict was found on the direction of the court, which granted the defendant's motion for an instructed verdict.

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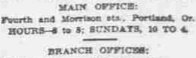

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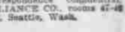

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