

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, Feb. 11, 1905. THE PROGRESS OF ERROR.

No question but the Legislature of Oregon is composed of men who wish to do right things. Nor is there disposition in them to extravagance in making appropriations.

Violations of the constitution began in small ways, and crept along for many years almost unnoticed. But they grew after a while to large and larger proportions; and then it was found that precedent and interest had made another system firmly fixed.

It was for the best of reasons, founded on long experience, that the makers of the constitution made in its instrument the mandate that all public institutions should be located at the seat of government.

Our consular service. The Lodge bill, the object of which was to provide for improvement in our consular service, is before Congress.

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to pay salaries three or four times in excess of the constitutional limit. Admitting the salaries provided by the constitution are insufficient to meet the conditions of these times, why then doesn't the Legislature propose amendments to the constitution? Why not admit that these various conditions may now make a constitutional convention desirable? Again, admitting that the constitutional salaries are low, should not officials who have sought these positions, with ample knowledge of the constitutional limitations, be fairly estopped from demand for increase, either directly or through fees and perquisites?

Protest now is useless, of course; yet The Oregonian has thought that it would be matter of interest to the people to have the facts presented to them in form for consideration. Some day the people may take action.

MACHINE-MADE CITIZENS.

Among the heaviest burdens of the state is the extravagance of our educational system. The system constitutes a "machine," which has no interest in industry, or business or taxpaying, beyond the desire to get the most it can.

People are going crazy on public education, and the educational machine, taking advantage of this cataleptic of intellect or prostration of judgment, rides the dumb beast under whip and spur.

But these alone would not be able to force the system forward. The chief agent in the work is the educational machine. It is composed of persons who live by it and through it, and who make it the business of their lives to work for its extension—because it is the vocation they live by.

There is nothing in this world—not even any good thing—that may not be done to excess. The system of public education, in many of our states, is an extravagant system. It did not produce the strong, energetic and self-reliant men and women who laid the foundations of our National life.

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cherished political privilege. As said by the Minneapolis Times: American Consuls have something more to do than draw their free, at the expense of goods, and occasional services, of American citizens who may pass their way.

A FORTY-CENT RATE AGAIN. A correspondent writing from Chehalis, Wash., complains of a recent editorial paragraph in The Oregonian in which the 15 per cent dividend of the St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber Company was mentioned as refuting the claim of the lumbermen that a "forty-cent rate" was the only thing that would save the lumber industry from ruin.

Comment of The Oregonian on the "forty-cent rate" has been to the effect that if the mills could not cut lumber at a profit on a higher rate, and the railroads could not haul it at a profit at that rate, the business must stop, and both parties thus become losers.

A life covering nearly three-quarters of a century, the greater part of which was lived in this city and its vicinity, was ended in the passing last Thursday morning of Theodore Wygant.

Reports have been freely circulated through the public press lately to the effect that conditions of exceptional destitution have prevailed in the homes of the worthy poor of New York City during the present Winter.

The speaker of the "third house" at Salem did well to administer a rebuke to the persons who in a spirit of levity introduced a resolution to vindicate Hon. Binger Hermann. This is not matter for jest, or ridicule. Complete vindication can come from no less than a body of Oregon Legislators.

A very beneficent and timely donation is that made by Mrs. C. H. Lewis and Miss Mary H. Couch to the surgical equipment of Good Samaritan Hospital. A gift of this kind leaves no loophole through which litigation can come in and defeat the purpose of the benefactors.

The report of the City Board of Health for January shows that of 131 deaths recorded during the month, 14 were of persons between 19 and 70 years of age, 15 of persons between 70 and 90, and 10 of persons between 90 and 100.

The Salem Statesman denounces with great vigor that Hon. L. L. Patterson has purchased an interest in the Statesman, or has furnished any money to the Statesman. Well, well. How did the escape?

The Drain Normal School seems to have been well managed. The Drain Normal School seems to have been well managed.

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NOTE AND COMMENT. "Blue sky and hot air" were the constituents of certain Chicago securities, according to a witness in the case. That is a happy expression and worthy of a Swinburne.

Football will not be made a felony in Nebraska, but it is strange to note that the House was divided on the subject, 73 to 51. Evidently there is no lack of Nebraskaans who think the same should be felonious.

Boring is evidently a good healthy business to follow, if one does not include boring in the list of crimes to be downed. Benjamin Van Slyke, who has just died in New York, was a professional boxer and at the age of 81 he became so enthusiastic during a lesson as to knock out his 20-year-old pupil.

Russia is losing her desire for "peace with dignity." Plain, orderly peace without trimmings is now the demand. "Clean up or shut up" is becoming a familiar command in Portland.

It is a disgrace!—Nix From Success. To half do things—persons. To refuse a loan to a richer man. To steal in small quantities.

Chicago gave the illustrious Hoch a welcome worthy of his deeds of gallantry. Crowds waited to greet the man who had done bravely for his country.

It is strange to find a person accused of committing suicide by the coldness of the water. So easy to be warmed up later.

Granite Hill Corr. Grant's Pass Herald. Babes, dogs and cats are plentiful at Granite Hill. We're thankful we're deaf. And pretty girls? Well, we're thankful we're not blind.

Merely Rumor. Hay Creek Corr. Madras Pioneer. On last Saturday evening two buckaroos were seen galloping down the road below R. Parrish's ranch, two miles below Creswell.

Did Singer Forget a Sewing-Machine? Thorp Corr. Ellensburg Capital. C. Singer, professor of agriculture in the Thorp schools, went to Ellensburg last Saturday ostensibly to attend the teachers' meeting, but he came home loaded with garden seeds, hawthorn, lawn mowers and other things.

Mrs. Ede's Righteous Indignation. Pine Creek Corr. Lakeview Herald. Last Tuesday Bert Wade put on a wig and white whiskers and called on Ede to take him over to the hotel for a lunch.

Society Note From Gilliam County. Condon Globe. Society Doan and Beulah M. Nafziger were married Tuesday evening in his office on Main street, Justice Neale performing the ceremony.

Wattle-Days. Sydney, N. S. W., Bulletin. It came to me at sunset. In the heaven's golden glow; When the sun hung banners streaming And the stars heralded his coming.

The Real Cowboy. Pilgrim. The cowboy, of necessity, was a versatile man. In a Winter camp in the North, I saw a patchwork quilt made from old trousers and neatly lined with a bed blanket.

Washington at the Fair. Tacoma Ledger. Everyone who has visited Portland and seen the buildings at the Fair Grounds during the last two or three months give a most enthusiastic report of the work accomplished and the prospect for a great Exposition.

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SHORT STORIES OF REAL LIFE

Unhappy Experience of the Young Benefactor Who Stayed Out Late—The Car That Did Not Get Past—How Spider Won the Fight.

WHO has not seen his car go by in a swirl of speed just at a moment when it was most important to catch it? Who has not at such agonistic moments felt a desire to deliver a terse oration on the subject in the presence of the street-car company and the particular car crew?

But some slight tribulation has been dealt out to hurrying street-car men. It happened a few evenings ago after the theater. There were lowering clouds and signs of rain, and a well-dressed lady hurried down Sixth street for her car.

The car was nearly a block on its way when the motorman succeeded in setting the brakes in answer to a violent ringing of the bell. A man of ample proportions stepped from among the passengers when the car stopped and warned the conductor not to start until the lady who had been standing was aboard.

The impatient conductor snarled things, but he did not dare start, for the passenger was acting within his rights—and, furthermore, had seen the conductor's number.

Thus, some three minutes later, the gallant passenger returned with the lady, who was the first spattering drops of the storm were falling. And Mr. and Mrs. Leo Friede rode home together.

His name doesn't matter. You will recognize him from the peculiar hoursness of his voice, if you happen to run across him during the course of the next few days.

The pair were middleweights and they started in the first round with a ferocity that promised results. This whirlwind of blows was met with a coolness that was not to be expected.

Especially from a socialistic point of view, this support of the libraries by voluntary taxation and their management by the people and for the people are of much more importance than the original gift.

There are two ways of promoting the socialization of capital: One is by talking about it and the other is by doing it. We do not mean to cast any slur upon those whose services to this cause are confined to the use of tongue and pen, and we realize that their monetary contributions, however small in amount, involve more self-sacrifice than any other kind of wealth.

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in the hall. A cold sweat came over him as he recalled it in four distinct, musical syllables, and that, too, in less than a minute.

This continued until he was at the point of exhaustion—until his throat was raw and his voice hoarse. His wife came in worried accents, remarking at the terrible cold he had contracted.

It was the clock, however, going to strike! The situation was truly becoming serious, for his lungs were exhausted and his wife was getting up to prepare something for the malady when the longed-for word came.

And now he is using his voice sparingly and most judiciously. He has all his remaining vocal force into the final cough. His effort was successful, for he barely heard the hour himself.

ONE of Portland's athletic enthusiasts has just returned from the Middle West with an account of one of the most extraordinary boxing contests that was ever held.

It occurred at Pocatello, Idaho, some days since. Through missing a train the Portland man was forced to remain in that burg over night.

The referee had counted seven and the prostrate man was writing about on the floor as if trying to recover himself when something happened.

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