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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1908.

THINGS BY THEIR RIGHT NAMES.

Having cleared the ground, and decided that they will not take a pledge which would require them, in any contingency, to vote for a Democrat for United States Senator, the Republicans of Oregon may now proceed with the main question. There are two candidates—Cake and Fulton. Probably there will be no other, on the Republican side. Hence, should the Legislature be Republican, one of these will be elected. But if the citizenry shouldn't want a Republican, and should elect a majority of Democrats to the Legislature, then the Senator will be a Democrat. And that will be the right thing. The effort to juggle with this question—carrying the elephant on one end of the figure, or balance pole, and the jackass on the other—is just about at an end.

The people, divided into parties, have various and variant views as to the policies to be pursued. It is on these differences that they are divided into parties. The basis of the division is in human nature. Men can't all think alike. Nor would it be good if they could.

But they who say there is no difference between parties, that one is the same as another, and that parties may "mix up," on pretense that there really are no parties or party differences, deny or ignore all the experience of men in all countries and through all times, under republican or democratic government.

It is through political parties that we get the debate on which progress of political ideas and of political systems depends. There is no other way to get it. In the debate, in our country, the Democratic party, these fifty years, has been worsted. The plea in its name now is that there should be no party. Well, doubtless any party in the like position would put up the same plea. Consider the fable of the fox that had lost its tail. What was that appendage good for, anyhow? Merely a useless flag; or, worse still, a betrayal of the character of the animal that bore it. But without the flag it was a fox still, and therefore had an advantage for purposes of deception.

Parties are not judged by their professions of the hour, but by their whole course and history. If the Republican party has been all wrong these fifty years then let us have the Democratic party. The main fault of the Republican party has been, and now is, that under the leadership of small politicians it temporizes too much, divides on trifling contentions, and follows small and self-seeking politicians. This is the cause of The Oregonian's disgust with it. The struggle for place or consideration makes contention over petty matters. So The Oregonian steps aside and looks on.

About parties and politics some of us know something. And the more we know the less likely are we to be fooled by professions or appearances. Here we have an illustration. On the theory or pretense that there could be no politics in the election of the Governor of Oregon Mr. Chamberlain was elected and again elected. It was the right thing, of course, since the people wanted it so, and Governor Chamberlain has discharged the duties well. But is he non-partisan? Of course not, for he is an earnest man, and that is impossible. He appears for his party on every partisan occasion; which is all right, too. So he is not non-partisan. On the contrary, he is a Democrat. He appears at one time and another in various states, in all parts of the Union, as the Democratic Governor of Oregon—a living example of the fact that Oregon is "hopeful" as a Democratic state; and he is exploited on all this as a possible candidate on the Democratic National ticket for the Vice-Presidency. Well, but what of that? Shouldn't Oregon be proud of it? Yes; if parties stand for nothing, if there is no purpose in politics but such as you see in a horse race, and the petty personal element is not merely part of the game, but the whole of it.

But we know, through long experience, since the beginning of our National history, that the opposing parties have stood for widely different views as to the course, the policies, the measures, of our National life. So different, so variant, have they been that the Civil War was but a feature or phase of them. Parties have not changed in fact from the beginning. The division is substantially the same as one hundred years ago. It never can be changed. Incidents of one time and of another will be unlike; but there is one party always whose tendency is towards the maintenance of steady and efficient authority in government and administration; another, whose tendency is as surely in the opposite direction. The one gives steadiness to government and to National life; the other almost always goes too far in the direction of crude or violent innovation.

But the disguises attempted by the one or by the other ought not to deceive anybody. The party that realizes its weakness is sure to try to convince you that there is no need of party at all. Interpretation of new legislation in Oregon, as non-partisan, is of this description. It is partisan effort by indirection—the only way now available to those who use it. They have a right to use it, but not to disguise it. Let the people know, so they may decide whether we are to have the policy of one party or of the other. For it will be the policy of one or of the other, surely; and all things should go by their right names.

BUT WE ARE BETRAYED.

Mr. George H. Thomas, chairman of the Multnomah County Democratic Committee, deplores the duplicity and general wickedness of his party brethren, who, in large numbers, are registering as Republicans, with purpose of participating in the nomination of Republican candidates at the primaries—intending, of course, in the June election to vote the Democratic ticket. But this Mr. Thomas considers very reprehensible. He says:

> When I see good Democrats, church members and reformers, going to the County Clerk and swearing before Almighty God that they are Republicans, it does not seem quite true. But perhaps I am too straightlaced. That's what some persons tell me.

The primary law, then, becomes a device for promotion of perjury. This is "a new one" against it. It is, of course, the duty of the good men of whom Mr. Thomas speaks to shun the temptation; but also it is a duty to shun various other evils that reformers feel they must prohibit by law. It is with regret that we discover that the primary law is so immoral a statute—according to this statement the most immoral ever enacted in the state.

And besides, Statement No. 1 proposes to require the candidate for the Legislature to make a pledge to the voters who are to elect him, to vote against their principles—upon a contingency likely to arise—upon the election of Senator, and moreover in the Legislature to take an oath to do so.

Hard lines these, Brother Thomas, all round, and for all of us—except those reformers who never are troubled with conscientious scruples or any sense of duplicity or perjury, so they may gain their end. Yet if Brother Thomas could induce his fellow Democrats to quit swearing falsely that they might uphold their sacred rights and privileges, and we could induce our fellow-reformers no longer to offer the bait, the primary law and all its "statements," with initiative and referendum besides, would be just the thing. But we are betrayed by our sublime devotion to our own political and moral perfections.

QUEER MATHEMATICS.

Some benevolent friend should take Mr. H. D. Wagnon aside and give him a few lessons in arithmetic. The point of this kindly observation will be apparent if the reader will peruse the following extract from Mr. Wagnon's letter on the single tax, which is printed today in The Oregonian:

"The farmers of Clackamas County now pay taxes on $4,993,700 of taxable property. Under the amendment $2,204,165 would be exempted as follows: Improvements, $133,790; furniture,. $166,430; horses and mules, $214,780; cattle, $136,670; sheep, $16,930; swine, $13,130, making $2,204,165."

Now this is a very remarkable piece of calculation. A man who can do such a trick as that with figures can do anything. According to the good old rule of addition which we learned at school, the sum of Mr. Wagnon's exemptions is $681,700, as anybody can easily see for himself. This is just $1,522,465 short of what our champion of the single tax says it foots up. Quite a little difference when you come to think of it. In fact, the total of Mr. Wagnon's alleged exemptions is less than one-third of what he states that it is.

Are our single-tax friends unable to add numbers together or do they fondly imagine that they can juggle as they like with figures and nobody will take pains to correct their mistakes? Or, finally, is this blunder of Mr. Wagnon's typical of the wild and irresponsible brain action of himself and his deluded followers? Does he expect that the adoption of the single-tax amendment will throw the street railways, gas and light companies, and so on, into the ownership of the cities? Why not try to accomplish some of these preliminaries before adopting the amendment which is to make them necessary? A rational man makes his preparations before rushing into battle, not afterwards.

Incidentally permit us the remark that it would be great nonsense for the people of Oregon to build a railroad to compete with those we already have. If we have any money to spend upon railroads it should go to that part of the state which has no transportation lines. Where railroads already exist the sensible thing to do is to compel them to serve the public faithfully at reasonable rates. Duplicating lines now in existence would simply force the public to pay dividends upon two shares of stock where they now pay on one. Moreover, as long as the monopolies control all lines outside the state, they could throw our proposed new Oregon line into bankruptcy whenever they liked. Really, the single-taxers ought not to write letters. Their arguments and so-called facts destroy what little respect one would like to retain for the memory and humanitarian theories of Henry George.

THE SUBMARINE SCANDAL.

If Congressman Lilley proves one-half of the charges which he has made against the submarine boat lobby, he will have succeeded in demonstrating that some individuals and corporations are unwilling to have even a good thing stand on its merits. The value of the submarine boat for certain purposes, in time of war, is unquestioned. These boats of varying types have been accepted by all of the great world powers as necessary adjuncts of the rest of the floating equipment used in warfare. But, with the merits of the boat so well understood, and with no particular disposition on the part of the Government to refuse to purchase as many of the craft as were actually needed, it seems strange that the builders should have deemed it profitable to maintain such an elaborate lobby at Washington or so many press agents throughout the country.

One of these agents spent several days in Portland endeavoring to secure the indorsement of a proposal that a submarine be provided for the Columbia River, although it is plain to every one at all familiar with conditions that a submarine boat for the Columbia River would be an absolutely needless expense. If, as charged by Mr. Lilley, the company manufacturing the submarines has been selling the Government boats that are inferior to those used by other countries, it is easy to understand the source of the large sums alleged to have been paid for influencing legislation. Mr. Lilley states that the Electric submarine boat people have already received more than $1,000,000 in excessive profits from the Government, and that another $1,000,000 in excess of what they were entitled to would be paid them under the provisions of the bill now pending.

Perhaps the most suspicious feature of the rather shady-appearing transaction is the unqualified statement that the Electric Boat Company, which has been taking the contracts for the submarines, has no plant and no assets. This would indicate that the company itself had but little better commercial standing than the band of lobbyists in its employ. Inasmuch as the submarine boat is of value only to the Government, and between the Government and the builders is standing a company of exploiters who keep in their employ an expensive lobby, it might be well for the Government to cut out all of these middlemen and do business direct with the builders. The patents under which the boats are built were granted by the Government, and for that reason alone should not be used for the purposes of such robbery as is charged by Mr. Lilley.

ENGLAND'S LIQUOR PROBLEM.

The United States is not the only country now wrestling with the liquor problem. The Asquith licensing bill, introduced in the British House of Commons a few days ago, will apparently, if it passes, result in government control of the liquor business. The author of the bill estimates that it will be about twenty years before the business will pass into the hands of the government. The capital invested in licensed property amounts to $1,200,000,000, and there are about 200,000 people dependent on the business for a livelihood. But the Asquith bill does not attack the business in a Carrie Nation manner. It makes provision for the gradual retirement of the people engaged in the traffic by compensating them for the loss of their business or employment.

The business aspects of the vexed problem seem to attract the attention of the British government to a much greater degree than the moral side of the question. The advocates of the old-age pensions bill have become so clamorous that it is doubtful if they can be repressed much longer, and Great Britain, if she accepts the Asquith bill, will in a few years be in a position to use the profits which would result from the liquor monopoly so as to relieve the poverty for which the use of liquor is in part responsible. The consumption of liquor by poor people will never cause such suffering and degradation in this country as it has caused in England, for the reason that the alcoholic mixtures sold in London and other large cities at prices to fit the purse of the consumer would never be permitted in the United States.

If the Asquith bill becomes a law and the government secures a monopoly of the traffic, it can reduce pauperism by improving the grade of liquor and advancing the price. In this way the old-age pensioner who has become a pensioner through spending his earnings for liquor will be compelled to contribute to his maintenance before it becomes necessary for the government to pension him. From a long-range view it would seem that the Asquith liquor bill and the old-age pension bill working together may result in vast improvement in the moral tone of Great Britain without seriously damaging what is regarded in England as the highly respectable and legitimate business of liquor-dealing.

GOOD SHOWING FOR PORTLAND.

With the swelling reduced on so many of our American fortunes, and so much of our "predatory wealth" yet lurking in the recesses of the cyclone cellar, it is, of course, impossible to expect business to make as good a showing as was made a year ago, before the confidence-destroying campaign began. But, while Portland has suffered in sympathy with all other cities in the United States, it is gratifying to note that our business interests have suffered much less than those of any other large city on the Pacific Coast. Judged by any standard of comparison that may be chosen, this city easily makes the best showing of any on the Pacific Coast. We are exceptionally strong on bank clearings.

The New York Financial and Commercial Chronicle in its issue of March 7 prints in detail the clearings for the various cities throughout the United States for the first two months of 1908. For that period the Pacific group of cities is credited with a decrease of 28.1 per cent as compared with the first two months of 1907. In this group San Francisco shows a decrease of 30.9 per cent, Los Angeles 32.8 per cent, Seattle 20.7 per cent, and Portland 17.7 per cent. For all of the clearing-house cities in the United States, the average decrease was 25.2 per cent. The accuracy of legitimate bank clearings as a business barometer has never been questioned, and the showing made by Portland, in comparison with the other large cities of the Pacific Coast, or with those of the entire United States, is, in the circumstances, flattering in the extreme.

There is less speculative buying of real estate than there was a year ago, but the number of purchases made for actual and immediate use is greater than a year ago. Building permits are also running up into big figures, and, with the coming of settled weather in the Spring, there will undoubtedly be much more building than was in evidence a year ago. Viewed from almost any standpoint, Portland is coming out of the recent trouble in better shape than was thought possible when we were in the midst of the trouble, about ninety days ago.

The giant warship Nassau, which has just been launched by the Germans, will cost, when ready for service, $9,190,000. The big fighting machine has not only established a new record for expenditure for a single warship, but she also came very close to a record for the time required to build. Her keel was laid in July, 1907, and exactly eight months later the vessel was launched. She has a displacement of 18,000 tons, is 472 feet long, 82 feet beam, and draws 26 feet of water. Her engines of 25,000 horsepower are expected to give her a speed of 19 knots. When ready for service the Nassau will have a crew of 866 men. A twin ship in every respect is soon to be launched, and work is being rushed on two others of nearly 1000 tons greater displacement. Perhaps it was the contemplation of this growing naval equipment that caused Great Britain to place so much stress on that apparently innocent letter from the Kaiser to Lord Tweedmouth.

Emma Goldman, one of the most dangerous creatures ever dumped on our shores from the refuse heaps of the Old World, is coming to Portland to "warm things up," as her advance agent expresses it. This loquacious press agent announces that "things are altogether too conservative out here on the Coast," and among other reasons for her visit finds that the calling out of troops in Nevada and the conviction of Schmitz in San Francisco were "aimed directly at the common people," and accordingly offer excuse for some reform of the Goldman variety. We are a rather conservative people, and for that reason will pay but little attention to the Goldman mouthings and snarls. Some day, however, when the great American people—not the Old World offscourings who claim the protection of the flag they disgrace, but real Americans—will rise up in their wrath over the antics of these foreign firebrands and send them out of the country forever.

Perhaps, after all, the men of Nippon were less anxious for war with China than they pretended to be. When the first news of the failure of the Tatsu Maru filibustering expedition drifted back to the land of the Mikado the Japanese demanded immediate release of the vessel, indemnity, apology, etc. Arbitration was declined, and an ultimatum delivered, and, although more than a fortnight has elapsed, nothing worse than ultimatums have come forth. The latest proposition is that China pay for the arms seized, pay demurrage on the vessel, and make the Chinese warships fire a salute in the presence of a Japanese official. China has not agreed to the programme, and has become so used to the ultimatums of the fiery Japs that the latter will probably be fortunate if he gets even a salute. China is waking up, and has apparently learned something about the game of bluff as played in the Far East.

The story of the fool and the revolver in a new role comes from Washington. According to the telegraphic news, a Treasury clerk who made a practice of keeping a revolver under his pillow at night, while in a dream discharged the weapon and killed his wife. His excuse for the tragedy was that he was dreaming of burglars and was not awake when he fired the fatal shot. This version may be accepted by the Coroner's jury, but the real cause of the tragedy, like that of thousands of others, was because there was no law that prevented this foolish dreamer from buying a weapon for which he had no legitimate use.

The ancient academic privilege of tippling on the campus and getting drunk off it has been abolished at Stanford by a tyrannical faculty. If Stanford goes on innovating in this way her students will presently have to lead lives as decent as the ordinary uncultured citizen's. To the prestige of the higher education this vulgar crusade for temperance gives a sad blow. We expect to hear soon that Stanford students have been forced to study their lessons. After that the popularity of this upstart school may be expected to wane rapidly.

Which is more dangerous to public morals, a popcorn cart or Conrad's saloon? Toward the poor, pitiful, friendless popcorn vendors the City Council exercises the austere severity of the strict letter of the law. For Mr. Conrad's misdoings it seems to find plenty of excuses. When will Councilmen and other lawgivers become able to see the misconduct of a man with a political pull as clearly as they see that of a poverty-stricken Italian popcorn vendor?

The London coal consumers are protesting against an advance of 36 cents per ton on coal. Some of them have informed Secretary Gladstone that the advance will force them into bankruptcy. Wonder what they would think of one of those $2 to $4 per ton advances which so frequently interest Portland coal consumers.

It appears to be settled that the Portland ball team can beat Chicago with one hand tied behind; but what about Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles?

It may be hoped that the translated account of the Albany's record at target practice may have a wide circulation in Japan.

Roseburg, too, gets blithely into line for publicity. All Oregon will soon be boosting for the best state in the Union.

And the Republican party of Oregon hasn't been U'Renized, after all. But the deUrenation of it is complete.

King Alfonso is back from Barcelona, where they didn't kill him. Brave Alfonso! Noble Barcelona!

PARRISH FOR JOINT SENATOR

Grant County Candidate Does Not Support Statement No. 1.

CANYON CITY, Or., March 13.—(Special.)—Candidates for district and county offices are beginning to come into the light in Grant County. C. W. Parrish is the Republican candidate for joint Senator from Grant, Harney and Malheur, and is apparently to have no opposition. He did not subscribe to Statement No. 1. Another promising candidate for the Legislature is Deputy District Attorney J. E. Marks, for the joint House member from this district. He has not subscribed to Statement No. 1, and will not pledge himself to vote for a Democrat for the high office of United States Senator.

The Democrats have a candidate for the office of Prosecuting Attorney for Grant, Harney and Malheur Counties—V. G. Cozard, of Canyon City. The Republican candidates are the present incumbent, J. W. Cullough, of Vale, and A. C. Leedy, of Canyon City.

The contest of greatest interest in this county is the three-cornered race for Sheriff. Republican candidates are J. W. Ambrose, who has served two terms in a very satisfactory manner, and J. L. Deardorff, a prominent farmer from Prairie City. The Democratic candidate is C. M. Collier, a leading farmer and ex-miner from the same precinct. This contest will absorb practically the whole interest in the campaign, and will probably be close both in the primaries and in the election.

The office of Clerk will go to the present encumbent, William Schroeder, who has served with such distinction as to preclude the probability of a rival candidate. The Republicans will not put up a man against him. The fight for Assessor, one of the most important offices in this county, will be in the Republican primaries, between the present officer, C. W. Bonham, and J. P. Johnson, of John Day. It is not likely that the Democrats will have any candidate for this office. The same is true of the office of Treasurer, the Republican contestants being A. O. Mosier, who was appointed to fill the unexpired term of J. N. Boley, deceased, and a veteran school teacher of Grant County, Professor A. W. Skinner. For School Superintendent the present officer, C. J. McIntosh, will have no opposition in the primaries. His Democratic opponent is Willard W. Austen, of Hamilton. E. P. Laurance, ex-Sheriff, is the Democratic nominee for County Commissioner, with no opposition so far.

OUT FOR OFFICE IN GILLIAM

Bourhill Will Contest With Bowerman for Joint Senator.

CONDON, Or., March 13.—(Special.)—Politics are the principal subject of conversation in this county at the present time and will continue to be until after the primaries, April 17. George B. Bourhill, of Grass Valley, Sherman County, who is the present County Judge of that county, is looked upon by his friends as a sure winner of the coveted prize of joint Senator on the Republican ticket for Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler Counties. Judge Bourhill, is a man of strong personality, strict integrity and of the finest executive ability. His record as present County Judge of his county is a strong one for economy, faithfulness to duty and the fearless and impartial administration of the duties of his office. Judge Bourhill's opponent will be Jay Bowerman of Condon. E. V. Littlefield will, in all probability, be elected district judge without opposition. D. R. Parker and J. A. Collier are out for the office of District Attorney. Parker is looked upon as a winner, his friends being certain of carrying the district for their candidate.

For county offices, Charles H. Horner has announced himself as a candidate for County Clerk on the Republican ticket, and will be opposed by Arthur Schilling, Democrat. For Sheriff, J. J. Portwood, Republican; R. M. Rogers, Democrat. For County Treasurer, M. C. Clarke, Republican; J. A. McMorris, Democrat. For Assessor, J. R. Wells and Joseph Whyte, Republican; Otis Campbell, Democrat. For School Superintendent, G. T. McArthur and J. C. Sturgill, both Republicans. For Coroner, W. A. Darling, Republican.

This county ticket is looked upon by both sides as being one of the best and strongest ever placed in the field, and a hard struggle is expected.

CASE WINS IN CIVIL COURT

Judge Frater Sets Aside Verdict of Court-Martial.

SEATTLE, Wash., March 13.—(Special.)—Major Otto A. Case was this morning, by a decision of Judge A. W. Frater, in the Superior Court, exonerated of the charges on which he was found guilty by a court-martial. The decision of the military tribunal was that Case had been guilty of conduct prejudical to good order and military discipline in criticizing the Seattle armory commission, on which are two of his superior officers, Adjutant-General Ortis Hamilton and Colonel George B. Lamping, commanding the Second Regiment, National Guard of Washington.

Judge Frater, holds that the court-martial had no jurisdiction. The judgment of guilty and sentence of a private reprimand and immediate restoration to duty is set aside and vacated, and Major Case is exonerated and discharged. The sentence was executed several days ago and the present decision will be appealed from.

ERECT SHEDS FOR THE LAMBS

Eastern Oregon Stockmen Adopt Humane System for Animals.

CANYON CITY, Or., March 13.—(Special.)—J. C. Moore, president of the Grant County Stockmen's Association, is making a trial of the early lambing theory, by means of sheds and feed for sheep and lambs. The almost uniform practice in this county heretofore has been to conduct lambing on open ranges in April, but recent experiments seem to promise more successful and satisfactory results by the indoor method. Only a small band of 600 ewes are being used for this experiment. It is believed that the expense will be but slightly increased and the usual losses will be greatly reduced. J. C. Oliver, another prominent stockman, is lambing one band with sheds for nights and stormy days, while in pleasant weather sheep and lambs are turned out in pasture.

PIQUED, HE QUITS POLITICS

Thomas Cale Won't Ask for Re-election as Alaska's Delegate.

SEATTLE, Wash., March 13.—(Special.)—To the Washington, D. C., correspondent of the Times, Thomas Cale, delegate to Congress from Alaska, today declared that he will not be a candidate for re-election. Cale would not discuss his reasons for declining to run again, but it is understood he is not satisfied with the present condition under which he is subordinated to Governor Hoggart in matters pertaining to Alaska, not only in the executive departments, but in many cases before the committees of the House and Senate.

The absolute withdrawal of Cale probably means the Republican nomination of John W. Corson, of Nome. The Democratic candidate is apt to be chosen from Fairbanks, possibly resulting in the selection of a miner for the Democratic nomination.

THE SOUTH AND MR. BRYAN.

But the Question is the North and Mr. Bryan.

Harper's Weekly.

The Charleston News and Courier publishes an editorial with this heading. The inquiry which it makes is interesting and its observations are true. It asserts that South Carolina will vote for Bryan, or for any other Democratic candidate, and what it asserts for South Carolina may be safely predicted of the whole South. This is a misfortune—misfortune for the South, for the North, for the whole country, but the South is not primarily to blame for the evil condition. This, however, is too long a story. If the South were not solid, it might have more effective influence in a Democratic convention. As it is, we are not inclined wholly to agree that it must take what the Eastern and Western Democrats see fit to give it. It can probably divide some state delegations, and doing so, may be of great assistance to rational Democrats of the East and the West who have no higher regard for Bryan than the South has. Leaving the South, the News and Courier is justified in saying that New York and New Jersey Democrats will not vote for the fads and follies which compose Bryan's anti-Democratic platform. Bryan is now, indeed, more unpopular in the Middle and Eastern states than he was in 1896 or in 1900. The Bryan forces did defeat the Democrats in Massachusetts, but in doing so they enormously weakened their own cause and their own candidate throughout this part of the country. What success the Democrats had in New Jersey last Fall was gained on a platform which was anti-Bryan. What renewed strength Bryan may have in the West is from the accession to him of purely Roosevelt votes in states that, nevertheless, are and will remain hopelessly Republican. The real reason for Bryan's weakness can be read in Henry Watterson's declaration of Democratic principles as set forth in the Courier-Journal, as follows: "Home rule, sound money, and all men's rights; the interests of the few subordinated to the interest of the many, but the interests of the few respected; the complete separation of church and state, and a tariff for revenue only; no clericalism, no class distinction, no caste discriminations, and no sumptuary laws. This," continues the Courier-Journal, "is Democracy pure and simple." And, indeed, although there may be some redundancy, it does include all sound Democratic principles. If any one is opposed to it, he is not a rational or "pure and simple" Democrat. Mr. Bryan's platform is directly opposed to Mr. Watterson's Democracy. Among what the Philadelphia Press calls the "Bryan specialties" are "Government ownership of railroads, the initiative and referendum, and the Government guarantee of bank deposits." No one can possibly be elected President who espouses these causes, and no Democrat can be elected President who does not substantially accept the Watterson platform.

SEVERAL STATEMENTS CORRECTED

Alumnus of the University of Oregon Answers Mr. Hulin.

PORTLAND, March 12.—(To the Editor.)—In your issue of the 11th inst. you print an assault upon the State University by one C. S. Hulin, of Newberg, the bias, error and ignorance of which invite some little correction.

Mr. Hulin's first complaint is that the University is active in "political manipulation." I deny that the University is guilty of any political or other manipulation; it is true that the alumni and friends of the Eugene institution are beginning a campaign in behalf of the much needed appropriation upon which the referendum has been invoked. Where is the impropriety in this? When the assassins of higher learning are conspiring in every dark nook and corner does Mr. Hulin think that the friends of state schools should sit idly by and allow the educational massacre to continue?

As an excuse for his statement that the State University is "in politics," Mr. Hulin points out that the gentleman who introduced the $125,000 appropriation bill is now "actively engaged in a campaign for re-election to the Legislature." The error in this statement lies in the fact that it is not true.

The crowning glory of Mr. Hulin's letter is his concluding statement that he doesn't "propose to abolish the University." What then does he propose? The present income is woefully inadequate; the school year of 1907 and '08 will leave a deficit of several thousand dollars; the faculty served for months without pay. The president of the Board of Regents has recommended that all contracts be made to terminate with the present school year. All the while the population of Oregon and the attendance at Eugene are increasing. We must either pass this appropriation bill or abandon the University. Mr. Hulin wouldn't abolish the University—he prefers to strangle it to death. And through it all a University graduate must not enter politics nor discuss public questions.

The thing to do is for the state to train young men for citizenship and then retire them to private life. Mr. Hulin wouldn't abolish the University; he would make it a mere plaything. Better thinking people concede to the University graduates the same political rights as are enjoyed by other citizens—and no more; but they give only slight heed to him who parades his ignorance and advertises his folly upon subjects with which he is ill-acquainted.

FRED STEIWER.

Women Smoke Going to Opera.

New York Herald.

Two women going to the opera in a carriage the other night caused mingled amusement and surprise to a crowd at Forty-second street and Broadway when their vehicle was stopped in the electric light and it was seen they were smoking cigarettes. Two men in evening dress were the other occupants of the carriage. They also smoked. They were visibly annoyed when the carriage was stopped so long that almost everyone on the sidewalk saw the women and the cigarettes. The remarks passed by persons along the curb apparently disquieted the women as well as their escorts.

Salt Water Cure for Whisky Thirst.

Lexington (Ky.) Dispatch.

When a drunken prisoner is brought before Judge John J. Riley, of Lexington, Ky., who thinks salt water will cure a thirst for whisky, he gives him the alternative of drinking a pint of brine or going to the workhouse for 60 days.

A FEW SQUIBS.

Old Beau—Williams, are my eyebrows on straight, and is my wig properly crumped? Valet—Yes, sir; but your chest has slipped down a bit.—Life.

George Washington may have been the father of his country, but Wall street regards J. Pierpont Morgan as the man who walked the floor with it.—Kansas City Star.

She—What is the proper formula for a wedding announcement? He—I know what it ought to be. She—What? He—Be it known by these presents.—Baltimore American.

Goodman Gonrong—You never was sick a day in yer life, an' you know it. Wot are ye shammin' now for? Tuffold Knutt (in a feeble voice)—I've had 'leven offers o' work this mornin' shovelin' snow.—Chicago Tribune.

Country Editor—I'm glad you brought these Spring poems in early. Spring Poet—Yes, sir. Country Editor (putting them in the stove)—Yes, sir; Most Spring poets wait till the weather gets too warm to use them.—Judge.

Little Willie (reading)—Say, pa, what is a franchise grab? Pa—A franchise grab, my son, is something that occurs when the guardians of the people's interests keep their hands open and their eyes closed.—Chicago Daily News.

"Pa," said the little Pennsylvania boy, "Well?" "Is the moon made of green cheese?" "Not if the contract called for green cheese, son. But run along. Little boys mustn't monkey with politics."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

WHAT THE SINGLE TAXERS WANT.

Mr. Wagnon Tells and Also Indulges in Some Figures.

PORTLAND, Or., March 12.—Mr. George W. Dixon, Canby, Or.—Dear Sir: On March 1 you had a letter addressed to the Oregon newspapers, in which you said that the proposed amendment "would double the taxes on the Farmer." In fact, you said it would make the farmer pay all the taxes, and you said it would exempt the railroads from taxation.

Now, my dear George, a man who signs his name "Geo. W." should have too much regard for the truth to tell his "dear brothers" such things as that, when you should have known better, and if you did not know that railroads would not be exempted you could have asked the Attorney-General, and he would have put you right, as he did on a former occasion, when he told you that it would exempt the things named in the amendment and you know that railroads are not named in the amendment, and consequently they are not exempted by it; so you should apologize to the Attorney-General, if not to your dear brothers of the press.

My dear Georgie, you say that you are a member of the International Typographical Union, and you are saying bad things about the single tax. Let me tell you that Henry George was a life-long member of that same Union. After he wrote "Progress and Poverty" he was made an honorary life member and was always honored by the Union, and most of the officers and members are single taxers, and will be able to judge you as you deserve.

You are sweating blood now about the railroads escaping taxes, if we had a land tax, as though we did not tax land now. If I thought you were trying to state facts I would feel like giving you some information about the single tax and the railroads. All single taxers would have the cities to own all street railways, gas and light companies, and run them to give service to the people, instead of big dividends to the stock-jobbers, as is done now, without any protest from your kind.

The single taxers would have the state of Oregon to build and own a genuine competing railroad that would give service to the people of Oregon. That would be a hard blow to the pass riders and other small politicians.

The farmers of Clackamas County now pay taxes on $4,993,700 of taxable property; under the amendment $2,204,-165 would be exempted as follows: Improvements $133,790, furniture $165,430, horses and mules $214,780, cattle $136,-670, sheep $16,930, swine $13,130, making $2,204,165; so the farmer would be benefited by the adoption of this most just measure.

H. D. WAGNON,
President Oregon Tax Reform Association.

THERE'S MONEY FOR DIVIDENDS

But the O. R. & N. Has No Funds for These Needed Improvements.

Dayton (Wash.) Chronicle.

New York, Feb. 28.—An extra dividend of $75 per share on its preferred stock, calling for a disbursement of $8,250,000, has been declared by the Oregon Railroad and Navigation Company, it was announced today.

If the above statement is correct the result is simply amazing. In the face of such high earnings on an inflated capital the roadbeds of the O. R. & N. are far from being in a desirable condition.

We note only some shortcomings in our near neighborhood. The bridges are temporary structures, the Alto high trestle is being partly reconstructed—a wooden, flimsy structure, instead of the gap being permanently filled. No agent or telegraph operator is kept at Bolles Junction, and no section crew between Alto and Starbuck, a distance of 12 miles. The shops and yards at Starbuck are poorly lighted. There is no connection for passengers from Pomeroy and Starbuck, with the Portland-Spokane trains passing Grange City, which is only three miles distant from Starbuck. We consider these conditions a false economy and enter our protest in behalf of the people.

We hope the people in selecting men for affairs will consider these subjects and select men able and willing to work for correction of these conditions.

As regards the explanation of this being a matter of bookkeeping, we believe that persons guilty of such manners of bookkeeping should be properly punished and the manner changed to honest bookkeeping.

IN THE
SUNDAY
OREGONIAN
TOMORROW

MOST INFAMOUS WOMAN CRIMINAL OF THE AGE

Mrs. Isabella Martin, the California dynamiter and poisoner, as revealed by "Baby John." Epitome of the wholesale murders that she planned out of mere revenge.

NATIONAL DECORATION FOR BRAVERY

Daring deeds in the saving of life on railroads now recognized with medals and with personal commendation of President Roosevelt.

THE TRUTH ABOUT OREGON'S BIG CATS

B. A. Childers writes from his experience with treacherous panthers during a lifetime, including his first glory as a boy.

DIVINITY OF THE ARABIAN HORSE

Homer Davenport's sister tells of the perfect animal worshiped by men of the desert.

TAFT, THE IMPOSSIBLE

Picturesque incidents in the life of a man who upset every prophecy made concerning him.

THE HOTEL CLERK ON MEN'S SPRING FASHIONS

Irving I. Cobb turns out a most delicious satire on the foibles of his own sex.

HIGH CLASS OREGON HORSES

A page of pictures of fine trotters that will be seen on Oregon tracks this Summer.

NATION OF NAKED MEN AND WOMEN

Frank G. Carpenter writes of an odd tribe of black savages in East Central Africa.

Order from your newsdealer today.