

The Oregonian

Entered at Portland, Oregon Postoffice as Second-Class Matter. Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance.

American life it will be through patient, reasonable, educative work, such as the local optionists have been pushing and not through party action. When the education is complete all disinterested people will be in agreement upon the subject.

SMOKING ROOMS IN LIBRARIES.

A citizen of Aberdeen, Wash., desires to know if The Oregonian whether the Portland Public Library has a smoking-room. He also wishes to be favored with our views upon the desirability of a smoking-room in the new public library at Aberdeen.

THE PROHIBITIONISTS.

The Prohibitionist party must be numbered among the regrettable things of the world. Its members belong to that class of men whose intentions are excellent, but whose heads are harmful.

SUMMER PARADISE.

Dairies and Summer resorts on the Coast of Oregon and Washington both thrive for the same reasons—weather cool, rain absent and herbage green.

RIVER CHANNEL EXPENSE.

All the Columbia River basin has an interest in the ship channel to the sea, but Portland has borne a very heavy part of the expense of improving the channel.

THE COUNTRY EDITORS.

The Washington State Press Association will meet in annual session at Vancouver today. From a radius of several hundred miles the country editors will gather, first to "talk shop" for mutual benefit, and after that to enjoy a brief respite from the cares and perplexities attendant on moulding public opinion.

than for the cargo to be transported to the ship 110 miles by rail to Astoria or over mountain ranges to Puget Sound. Here is a matter that merits the attention of the whole Columbia River region.

A New York dispatch announces that the coast extension of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad will be completed in July, 1908. The cost will be about \$5,000,000 greater than the original estimate.

A LESSON IN ANARCHY.

Greek laborers of the Salem Electric Railroad have learned to despise private fences, and invade and despoil private land, in order to place rails on the land of unwilling owners.

THE REFUSAL OF MURDERER PRESTON TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT ON THE SOCIALIST LABOR TICKET.

The refusal of Murderer Preston to run for President on the Socialist Labor ticket was unheeded by the men in control, and we now witness the strange spectacle of a convicted murderer aspiring to the highest office in the gift of the American people.

CHAMPIONS OF THE BRAIN NORMAL SCHOOL CAN ACCOMPLISH MORE TALKING TO THE LEGISLATORS THAN TO THE PEOPLE.

Champions of the Brain Normal School can accomplish more talking to the Legislators than to the people. The Legislators gave them the school and will have the whole say about the matter next Winter.

HOW THEY DO IT IN OKLAHOMA.

J. Tompkins Surprised to Find There's No Direct Election Here. HAYFIELD, Ok., July 14.—Editor Oregonian—Since you published my letter in the 6th, and did not support my views editorially, the enemies of statement 1 are claiming my argument in favor of the principal was not considered good.

UNSTAKEN, AND NOT PAID FOR.

Calgary (Canada) Herald. "The Tractor" has chosen Santa Barbara, Cal., as the scene of "Comrades," his new story on Socialism. "Have your writings paid?" Mr. Dixon asked the other.

THE LOVE SONG.

It is said that the men of today are far less passionate in their love-making than their ancestors. I love you, or at least I think I love you, or possibly I do.

WHAT THE DES MOINES PLAN IS.

Des Moines, the capital and also the commercial center of Iowa, has adopted a new system of municipal government, which because of its distinctive features has been christened the Des Moines plan.

The administration of municipal affairs under the Des Moines plan, is in the hands of a board consisting of the mayor and four councilmen. The board stands in the same relation to the business of government as the directors of a trading corporation bear to the company's business.

WELL KNOWN TO ALL PHYSICIANS SINCE 1858.

PORTLAND, Or., July 15.—(To the Editor.)—A special communication from New York, printed in The Oregonian of July 15, we read that according to Dr. Gustav Baar a "new disease" had been defined at the last medical congress in Vienna, namely oxaluria.

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MARSH HENRY ON THE JOB.

A Rare Treat Expected From the Colonel's Campaign Literary Bureau. Baltimore Sun, Dem. Colonel Henry Watterson will constitute the literary bureau of the campaign.

Here we have proof that the impending debate will live long in the history of American literature. Colonel Watterson, we believe, is the greatest living literary man. His vocabulary is illimitable; his style is electric; his figures of speech are overpowering.

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BOOKS.

LITERARY festivals are in the air. In December of the present year, Milton's tercentenary will be celebrated, but in 1909 these four great literary centenaries will claim the world's attention—those of Tennyson, Edgar Allan Poe, Oliver Wendell Holmes and Edward Fitzgerald, the latter being the translator of Omar Khayyam; the Persian poet, who is supposed to have died in the year 1123.

Reminiscences of Lord Randolph Churchill are seeing light just now, in a certain volume, as for Holmes, Sir Tennyson's verse, as for Holmes, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle has stated that he ranks Holmes as an essayist higher than Charles Lamb. For a Scotch-Englishman like Conan Doyle, this is quite a concession. It is also interesting to recall in this connection, that other centenaries next year will be those of Abraham Lincoln's, Gladstone's, and Darwin's and others of lesser fame.

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