The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance.

(By Mail.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$8.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	4.25
Daily, Sunday included, three months	2.25
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75
Daily, without Sunday, one year	6.00
Daily, without Sunday, six months	3.25
Daily, without Sunday, three months	1.75
Daily, without Sunday, one month	.60
Weekly, one year	1.50
Sunday, one year	2.50
Sunday and Weekly, one year	3.50

(By Carrier.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	9.00
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75

How to Remit—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at the sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 16 to 28 pages, 2 cents; 30 to 44 pages, 3 cents; 46 to 60 pages, 4 cents. Foreign postage double rates.

Eastern Business Office—The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency—New York, rooms 48-50 Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 510-512 Tribune building.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, NOV. 26, 1908.

THE DENOMINATIONAL COLLEGE.

"One of the questions now uppermost in the minds of religious and educational leaders," says the Louisville Courier-Journal, "is the future of the church college. During the last two decades the large increase in attendance in institutions of higher learning has been in the state and independent schools. In many states the institutions of higher learning that have state support have made such inroads upon student patronage that the majority of denominational colleges are struggling for an existence. In a number of states some denominations are discovering that they have more representatives in the state schools than the combined attendance in their own schools, and in a number of instances certain denominations have abandoned their own schools and are erecting Bible colleges and seminaries adjacent to the campus of the state universities. In many states the future of the church college is very uncertain. State Legislatures are pouring great sums of money into the treasuries of their own institutions; some of the best American scholars are to be found on their faculties; their equipment equals that of many of the older and wealthier universities of the East. State schools, as a rule, offer free tuition, so that with a small endowment, a poorly-paid faculty and a meager equipment the church schools are distanced."

All this is true, indeed, and the consequences have long been foreseen. In Oregon the tendency is much the same as in other states—say in Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska. The local and denominational colleges must adjust themselves to this condition; they must work hard, receive the earnest support and help of their own communities, and maintain themselves upon their special merits. One could name a half dozen small colleges in towns of Oregon, which have their basis in religious and church effort, yet are practically independent of church control—and are doing excellent work, both for general education and for the material welfare of their communities, but do not get the aid and support from their own localities to which they are entitled. But what would these towns be hereafter without the schools that have made them what they are and given them the distinction they possess? Every one of these schools ought to have more support at home, and support of a material and effective kind. The small college, the country college, is the soul of the community in which it exists, the center of its intellectual and social life, and of its material prosperity too.

There is another tendency mentioned by the Louisville paper which is worth notice, namely, the effort on the part of a certain class of these schools to break away from ecclesiastical control. In Kentucky it is noted that two synods, representing the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, have authorized the board of trustees of Central University to revise their charter so that hereafter the board will be self-perpetuating and the church bodies will have no official connection with the university. The desire on the part of these schools to get on a more liberal basis is due to the influence of the liberal spirit that is pervading the educational life of today, and in some cases to a desire to place these church schools in a position to profit by the pension feature for retired professors, as offered by "The Carnegie Fund."

But it should be observed that many of the so-called church colleges are only nominally such; yet it is not wise to remove them wholly from such influence as the churches under which they were founded may still bring to their aid. The denominational influence is seldom or never obtrusive; and in most of the colleges students may be educated without being aware of any particular denominational influence about them. Yet others, who seek such influence, with its fellowship and support, may find it. The original idea of the church school has, however, in most of them, been largely lost.

The special thought just now is that no one of these communities where the small college is the main feature of its life, does enough for its school. The endowment of each should be increased by steady additions at home, through systematic effort on a continuous plan. Many small sums will constitute a large one, which then will invite larger additions from abroad; but the community that does not show an interest of this kind in its own college is likely to be disappointed in its hope or expectation of receiving effective help from those not resident within it.

A PROBLEM OF PHILANTHROPY.

Dr. Pearsons, of Chicago, who, for years has been giving very large sums of money to struggling colleges, accumulated his wealth from rise of values of real estate in this city. He is now distributing the "unearned increment," and says he intends to keep only enough to give his body a decent burial. He may survive yet for years, but says he is his own executor, and that he has everything arranged. He is fortunate, or unfortunate, in this, that he has no direct descendants. Yet he has made provision for those nearest of kin. The remainder he intends for benefaction of mankind.

It is the wisest way. What is a conscientious man, to whom great wealth comes through growth of values, to do with his property? It is a study how he is to use it for best purposes and for most permanent results. Dr. Pearsons is using his wealth and disposing of it in ways which seem to him best calculated to help those who are disposed to help themselves. It is the true method of beneficence. The person who is poor may be helped, but should not be coddled into pauperism. The college may be helped, but its local community should help it too.

It is mighty hard for a man to whom wealth has come through the movements of his day and time to arrange for the disposition of his wealth so that it may continue to exist, operate for efficient and worthy ends, and be a possession forever. Heirs most likely will dissipate it, and the process of dissipation will be a curse to them. How then to dispose of great property, so that it may continue to be a working force for the good of humanity, is the question for men and women of wealth, who are practical people of the world, yet still are philanthropists.

JUST A PLAIN ANSWER.

A letter to The Oregonian contains the inquiry: "Why do you say that Chamberlain is not the choice of the people of Oregon for Senator? Do you forget the plurality for him last June?"

It is an easy answer. Every one knows that thousands voted for Chamberlain who did not and do not want him for Senator. Nor had they any expectation that he would be elected Senator.

These thousands, opposed to Chamberlain and to his party in all politics—though their ballots were marked for him—didn't cast their votes with intention of making him Senator. They voted for Chamberlain in order to defeat Cake, whom they deemed a man not equal to the position—intending and expecting that the Legislature, which has the constitutional power to elect, and whose duty it is to elect, would "choose" some Republican for the position. They intended by the vote to beat both Cake and Chamberlain.

That these are facts every one knows. There is neither "sense of honor" nor "morality" in affectation or pretense of denying them.

Likewise Republican candidates for the Legislature never for a moment, when they were "taking the pledge," imagined it would, or even might require them to vote for a Democratic Senator. They took it as a means of getting the nominations over competitors in their own party; and Democrats, who had registered as Republicans and had named no candidates of their own party, voted for the "Statement" Republicans, both for the nomination and the election.

By this bunco game of politics anybody may consider himself bound who will. But the method deceives none, nor the spurious morality that offers the result as an expression of "the will of the people." No result so contrary to the will of the people of this state ever was reached. The road is open, however, to many more like it. Under the present system, expect continuation of false registration, nomination of the candidates of one party by the other, and a continuous round and repetition of the bunco game.

Talk to no one in such a situation about honor, honesty and faith! It is a trick game. Only this and nothing more—except that the proceeding, from beginning to end, is an attempt, an avowed attempt, to "beat" the Constitution of the United States.

THE TURKEY BIRD.

His name belies him. He is not a Turk. He is an American. Not the first in the world to be misnomered is he.

The turkey bird was widely dispersed throughout North America, but was first observed in Mexico. For in Mexico the Europeans first established themselves in America.

The name of this fowl preserves a curious illustration of the mixture of truth and error which had led to the discovery of America. It was supposed that America was the opposite side of Asia. When the fowl was introduced into Europe about 1520 people named it on the theory that it was an Asiatic fowl. "What strange bird is this?" was asked in the markets of London. "It is from Turkey," was the answer. So it is called the turkey to this day. So it always will be called, by the English-speaking world.

Another instance occurs of the way or manner in which words have come into the English language. We have the words milliner and millinery. Fancy goods made in Milan were offered for sale in London. The person who offered them for sale was a milliner; the goods were millinery. Three centuries ago in London, as the plays of Ben Jonson show, the milliner was a man shopkeeper. In our time the man is no longer a milliner.

These are interesting incidents, the like of which might be multiplied by hundreds in the study of any great language;—of our own perhaps more than any other, because of the wide dispersion of the English tongue.

JUDGE ROOT AND THE LAWYERS.

That the case of Judge Milo A. Root, of the Washington Supreme Court, has suffered for lack of wise counsel seems clear. He is on trial not before the State Bar Association but before the whole country. He is accused of an offense for which a man is never forgiven, either by his contemporaries or by posterity. For the unjust judge no excuse avails, and the charge against Judge Root is that he has been unjust. Wiser counsel would, for one thing, have forbidden him to resign his office while the investigation of his cause goes on. To be sure, he assigns a plausible reason, but in the circumstances it is not a sufficient one.

Cynical observers will sneer at Judge Root's ill health and interpret his resignation as a confession of guilt. At all risks he should have avoided giving his enemies this advantage, which they will be quick to seize. If he has been pursued by a malignant fate, as he writes the Governor, he ought to have faced it like a man and defied it. Peace of mind is dearly bought by sitting down under the shadow of guilt. Death itself to an innocent man is to be chosen rather than submission to a wrongful accusation. Judge Root's untimely resignation is a deplorable mistake.

Again, wiser counsel would urge the Bar Association to conduct their investigation with full publicity. They are not dealing with a "family" or professional affair, and if they think so, they make a great mistake. The public is more concerned with the character of judges than the lawyers are. If Judge Root is innocent the people have a right to know it with all the reasons why. They have the same right if he is guilty. The apparent secrecy which surrounds the investigation necessarily deprives it of all weight. The lawyers may be satisfied with it, but nobody else will be. The effect of this most unwise secrecy will be to make outsiders believe that Judge Root is guilty and that his professional brethren are trying to shield him. His unfortunate resignation taken together with the lawyers' regrettable lack of common sense will work powerfully against him in the public judgment. The mischief of the resignation is now done and very likely there is no way to retrieve it completely. Still, a frank public investigation would do much, and Judge Root should have the benefit of it. Everything that has been done thus far might well have been planned by his enemies. It is time for his friends to take a hand.

PORT OF PORTLAND DECISION.

The commercial prestige of Portland is dependent on the deepening of the channel from Portland to the sea and on maintenance of an efficient tug and pilot service. With the enlarged powers which the Port of Portland will have under the decision of the Supreme Court, announced Tuesday, the local organization will be in position to handle the towage and pilotage service for the best interest of the port. The fact that every dollar spent by Portland in improvement of this channel and in betterment of the service for deepwater ships brings returns which are shared in by every producer in the Columbia Basin does not for the present at least seem to lessen the responsibility of Portland in shouldering the entire burden. Some day, when our people have a better understanding of the matter and concentrate all their efforts on improving that portion of the Columbia River which is in greatest need of improvement, we may force the Government to recognize the merit of the work now being done by the Port of Portland.

The necessity of keeping the river open to the present depth is a burden which long ago should have been shifted from Portland to the general Government, where it properly belongs. The matter of pilotage and tug service is, however, a branch of our maritime service which for the present at least must be handled by the Port of Portland, as representatives of the taxpayers. The problem of a deep channel to the sea and of a first-class tug and pilot service, at rates in keeping with those which prevail in other ports, means more for Portland at this time than it has ever meant. The commerce of the great Northwest will no longer vacillate and move from one port to another. It is settling down into a permanent groove, from which it will not soon be dislodged. That groove will drain the traffic of the great Inland Empire either to Portland or to Puget Sound.

With two great railroads, which in point of physical construction are unsurpassed in the United States, bringing the traffic of the Inland Empire down to Portland over a water-level haul, this city has a great advantage over all other North Pacific ports as the natural point for trans-shipment for the overseas markets. This prestige can be permanently retained and increased if we keep steadily at work on the river channel. It will wane, however, and the traffic will be driven elsewhere, if we fail to keep the channel to the sea in proper shape for handling the largest class of vessels. Portland taxpayers are carrying all of this burden, and they are carrying it uncomplainingly; but every grain-grower and every producer of a ton of traffic of any kind in the Inland Empire are sharing in the advantages which follow this work of the Port of Portland. Until a perfect channel and a first-class tug and pilot service are secured on the river below Portland, no advantages will follow expenditure of money on the upper reaches of the river.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

That species of thankfulness which consists mainly in a general feeling of well-being is good in its way. Depending upon a sound stomach and an active liver it is not a very exalted feeling perhaps, but neither is it base. Far be it from The Oregonian to decry good health and that benign satisfaction with the Almighty which wells from it like clear water bubbling from a living fountain. Dr. G. Stanly Hall has sapiently noticed that people of pessimistic views usually have something out of order with their nerves. Certainly a diligent liver is a prime essential to that hale and regenerate state of the body which makes it possible to be at peace with Providence and dwell with seemly jubilation upon the thought of his abundant blessings.

The heretical doctrine that good health is the foundation of true religion we shall warily shun. It seems safer, as well as more accurate, to say that good health is the first of blessings and the highest aim of earthly striving. Without it a man may possibly be a worthy citizen and a woman a loving wife. Still the citizenship of a man whose strength is impaired and his opinions distorted by disease will naturally lack clarity. He will speak sourly of things in general. He will be apt to predict dismal results from every undertaking. A woman, too, who peaks and pines instead of blooming will spank her children when she ought to kiss them and drive her husband to drink with incessant nagging. By thoughts like these we may convince ourselves of the importance of good health. Some may rashly retort that nobody needs convincing, but that is an error. Acts speak louder than words and by our acts most of us roundly proclaim that in our estimation health is of no consequence at all. Consider, for example, how many millions of people will make themselves ill by eating too much on this Thanksgiving day. If health weighed with them one atom would they do such a deed?

Health being the fundamental blessing, without which all others are but tinkling cymbals, if we can discern any decided progress within the last year or two toward making it more common and secure what firmer ground for thankfulness could we desire? Would not such progress prove better than anything else could that the Almighty directs human events to the highest good of his sinful creatures? We are aware that certain so-called ministers belittle health of the body. Puffed up with spiritual pride they contemn the fleshly tabernacle which the Lord has spent so many thousand years constructing. "What is this vile body?" they shriek from their pulpits. "Dust and ashes," they reply to their own question. They think they can find vastly better uses for prayer than to heal the sick by it, and yet the Savior whom they worship never refused to give sight to the blind nor did he permit the lame to limp from his presence. To Jesus, the human body was something far nobler than dust and ashes.

It was his aspiration, at least upon the human side, to make of the world a place where sickness and suffering should be unknown. To John in the Apocalypse he showed the blessed city descending earthward. It was to be a terrestrial city, located in this world and not in some other. In it there should be no more curse and from the eyes of the inhabitants God should wipe away all tears. In our despairing weakness, in our desperate failure of faith, we formerly gave up the hope of seeing the New Jerusalem on earth, where John said it was to be and transported it to some far-off world beyond the Milky Way. Nothing could do worse violence to the teaching of Jesus. Of all optimists he was the foremost and the glories he foresaw gilded the fields and cities of this world we live in. Marvelous prophet, wonder of the ages for invincible faith, he looked across the ages and saw men victorious over their petty hatreds walking in splendid health upon an earth purified of poverty, strife and pain. In so far as we share his mighty vision we worship him most truly.

Every year we are sharing it more completely. Sound health and sound reason were his watchwords and more and more they are becoming ours. The new theology brings heaven down to earth. God is face to face with us everywhere, it teaches; the laws of nature are his will in action. Prayer is no longer a mere aimless aspiration for some indefinite blessing. It asks for health and it is answered. Man dips into the Ocean of the divine and draws up bodily well-being. Good men everywhere preach the gospel of a better earth. The literary genius of the twentieth century attacks the ancient problems of society with resolute intent to solve them. Faith, holding fast to the beneficence of the Almighty, affirms that they can be solved; Reason analyzes, ponders and reconstructs. Thought and feeling strive toward a common goal, namely, a race of men emancipated from disease and poverty and a social structure thoroughly rational from foundation to summit. No year since time began has seen such progress toward this goal as the last one. All the social forces seem to be converging and uniting. Perhaps the race is on the brink of some great evolutionary upward movement. Perhaps we live in a time which future poets will sing as a glorious epoch when patient faith found fruition, and things long hoped for burst into beautiful reality. Who knows but this Thanksgiving day is the first day of the year One in the Kingdom of Heaven? It surely will be if we all resolve that it shall be.

The secret method by which some of the original Americans hardened copper in the Lake Superior regions has never been discovered, a fact which proves that in some respects the men of the present day have not reached the standard of skill established thousands of years ago. But the modern Americans have so many advantages over their predecessors in other respects that comparisons are impossible. Dan Cardoner, a Coeur d'Alene mineowner, has bought some old Spanish lead mines from which the Romans are supposed to have secured their supplies of that metal, and will work them under improved methods. The Western miner will not only make some decided improvements over the methods of the subjects of Julius Caesar, but he will also have an economic advantage, for lead was not in such general use in the old days of Rome as it is at the present time. Had it been as useful as now, a dumdum bullet instead of a dagger would have caused "the rent the envious Casca made."

The British Board of Agriculture is quite particular about the quality of the "roast beef of old England," which comes from this side of the Atlantic, and has accordingly ordered the slaughter without delay of four cargoes of cattle from New York and Pennsylvania. Cable advices state that the animals on the four vessels were found to be free from disease, but as the board has issued an order prohibiting the importation of cattle from those states where the foot and mouth disease was prevalent, no chances were taken. At this distance, it seems as though there was a needless waste of good beef, if the animals were unaffected by disease. Four cargoes of beef would feed a great many starving Londoners. It could even have been used to advantage, had the ships headed west, and brought their cargoes back to the United States.

Swiftwater Bill, the spectacular "piker" from the Far North, who has broken all records for the amount of newspaper notoriety received in proportion to the money he actually squandered, has just married wife No. 4 at Spokane. He is thus tied with Nat Goodwin on the number of matrimonial ventures, but as there is an unending supply of fools of the female sex, it is yet full early to make any accurate predictions as to which will have the largest number of ex-wives to his credit or discredit before the fool-killer performs a long overdue duty.

The Brazilian government has decided to finance the coffee loan, and both houses of Congress have approved the recommendation of the President of Brazil, by passing a bill authorizing the national guarantee of the new $75,000,000 loan which will be expended in taking up all of the loans made by the province of Sao Paulo since the coffee corner was started. Government ownership of coffee will prove a fine thing for the planters, but it will in the end prove very expensive for the taxpayers.

One feature of the proposed substitution of the telephone for the telegraph in train dispatching commends itself; a bell or a gong is a more effective agency for waking a somnolent night operator than the clicking of a key.

Just so soon as it shall become infamous to own property in this country we know several reformers—and the names of them—who will be "the leaders of the people." They are very much in evidence, even now.

"Is it true," asks an inquirer by letter from Illinois, "that one acre of land in your state will support a man?" We may say yes; but as much depends on the man's industry and skill as on the land; maybe more.

Shouldn't we be thankful that we live in a land where blizzards never rage either in November or later in the season?

Among other blessings for the year, let Oregon give thanks for the most bountiful harvest in the history of the state.

LET MEMBERS HOLD CAUCUS

Statement No. 1 Should Not Divide Republican Legislators.

PORTLAND, Nov. 24.—(To the Editor.)—No difficulty should arise in organizing the House and Senate of the Oregon Legislature next January.

Surely the 75 Republicans in those bodies will be willing to get together as Republicans? That part of them known as Statement Republicans surely are Republicans first and assistant Democrats only so far as they are compelled by Statement No. 1. They have shown, by their recent votes this month, that they support the principles and policy of the party of progress and liberal ideas. There was no division upon the question of indorsement of the National party. Now, why divide upon a matter that is, at least doubtful in its legal and moral force, a principle condemned by the best legal talent of the state?

The claims of Statement No. 1 at best rest only upon a meager foundation. Outside of Multnomah County the Statement-members-elect are hopelessly in the minority. An analysis of the vote of Multnomah County shows a small majority for Statement No. 1, so that, as a matter of fact, the vote in the state at-large shows a majority against that principle.

In view of these facts it can scarcely be asserted that the people of the state of Oregon favor that principle or support the attempt to subvert the Constitution of the United States, by a vote of the people of the state of Oregon. The law adopted in June last requiring the Legislature to elect the people's choice as Senator, settles the whole business.

Let me see; the intent of the law-making body must be considered in order to learn the meaning of the law. What did the people mean or intend by voting that law? The law itself upon its face is invalid and of no force, since it prescribes no penalty for its violation, and it is left to us to discover its meaning. This omission of penalty must have been premeditated. One cannot suppose that the people did not know enough to be aware of what they were doing, hence the omission was doubtless intentional and has a meaning.

It could not have been the purpose in giving that vote, to cast some reflection upon the law-smith shop at Oregon City, or to discredit that wonderful "People's Power League" that is responsible for so many curious vagaries of legislation. The only apparent purpose in that piece of legislation was to nullify Statement No. 1, and make it advisory only, the same as Statement No. 2. So that in force and effect, there is now by will of the people, expressed at the polls last June, no Statement No. 1 and the members of the Legislature are advised only to vote for Chamberlain with no binding command upon them, and their former pledges taken in April are thereby released and rendered null and void.

At all events, Statement men and antis should unite for the interest and welfare of the state. The election of Mr. Chamberlain as Senator is not the sole purpose and aim for which this Legislature is created. It is a small matter to the state-at-large what individual shall reap the temporary honors of Speaker of the House or President of the Senate. It is a matter of importance that the wheels of legislation be not clogged, but that the best efforts of the members of the House and Senate be directed towards the perfection of necessary legislation.

Let the members take the courage of their convictions and get together.

J. W. CAMPBELL.

TWO LEGISLATURES IN OREGON

Real Representative Body Can Repeal Holy Statement No. 1, Says Writer.

ST. JOHN, Or., Nov. 24.—(To the Editor.)—The Supreme Court of Oregon in the case of J. C. Hall, respondent, vs. George W. Dunn, County Judge of Jackson County, Or., et al., filed October 27, 1908, said:

"The Legislative Assembly, when not interdicted by amendments to the organic law of the state, is a lawmaking body of co-ordinate authority with the people, when the latter exercise the initiative power which they have reserved."

Now, if that is true, as it seems to be, why cannot the Legislature of Oregon, when it meets at its next session, repeal the law passed by the people last June, which commands the members of the Legislature to vote for Mr. Chamberlain for United States Senator, he having received the highest number of votes cast at the June election? They could do this immediately after organization. Of course, the Governor would veto it, but it could probably be passed over his veto.

If that were done the question of the constitutionality of the initiative act last June would be eliminated and the whole matter would hang on Statement No. 1. The Legislature could then proceed to elect a United States Senator in the usual way.

It seems that we have two Legislative bodies in Oregon of co-ordinate authority, viz., the Legislature and the people, and that either can undo the acts of the other. Witness the Legislature of 1905 repealing the local option law in the case cited above. It follows then that if the next Legislature should repeal the acts of the people of last June, attempting to control the vote of the Legislators on the corrupt practices act, or one or both of the fish laws, all of which were passed by the people last June, then the people could re-enact the acts at the next general election. The next Legislature could again repeal—and so on, ad nauseum.

S. C. COOK.

At What Age Should a Man Retire?

Chicago Inter Ocean.

President Eliot, in explaining his resignation of the presidency of Harvard University, said: "When a man has reached the age of 75 it is time to look for rest and retirement."

That is especially true when his work is administrative in character. At that age the grind of detail and management is increasingly felt. He may feel himself in the best of spirits and health, but the work he is doing is, as President Eliot just said, the work of "a young, able and active man."

For purely intellectual work no such limit can be set. The mental eye often remains undimmed when the physical has grown weak. Tolstoi was far beyond what is generally regarded as the creative period when he wrote "Resurrection." And yet there are those who hold that he touched as high a point in that book as in any of his earlier novels. Had he continued to practice the literary art instead of changing to the religious philosopher, he would no doubt have proved how little 80 years means to the real genius.

A THANKSGIVING PRAYER.

For the world, with all its brave achievements,
For the golden, the moonbeams pale,
For the rosy dawn, the nightly shadows;
For the mountain high, the hill, the vale;
"Oh, Lord! we give thee thanks."

For the waters in their calm and tempest,
For the land, the fruit, the tree, the flower;
For the human hearts replete with fervor,
When thy heavenly kingdom is their bower;
"Oh, Lord, we give thee thanks."

For the gifts of mind, for love and kindness,
That of happiness is made the goal;
For the strength of will, for noble lessons;
Leading man to profit for his soul;
"Oh, Lord, we give thee thanks."

Last, for friendship's ties that make life worthy,
For rejoicing day and sorrowing night;
For the caroling bird, the murmuring zephyrs;
For all thy gifts that lead Truth and Right;
"Oh, Lord, we give thee thanks."

Mildred Cain in Washington Herald.

JEEWHILLIKINS! WHAT A GROUCH

Tirade Against Prevalent Outdoor and Indoor Athletic Sports.

PORTLAND, Nov. 24.—(To the Editor.)—It is a little amazing to me that the mighty Oregonian, with its great sweep and resources, should not have made the discovery that in Portland there is to be an infantile interscholastic football team organized in the near future. Furthermore, The Oregonian has omitted to mention the fact that the teachers of the several kindergarten schools, composed of infantile heroes in embryo, are seriously considering the organization of a kindergarten football league.

And why not? Is there anything absurd about an infantile football league or a kindergarten league? In future we shall have football Presidents, football Governors, football Senators, teachers of football at the head of all our schools and colleges.

And by the way, I must not overlook the Presbyterian Football League of Portland. Hence we shall have in our churches and Sunday schools, our Epworth Leagues, Christian Endeavor Societies and Ladies' Aid Societies, Home Training Circles, instructors—no, not that, coaches. Is it not that they are called?

This is what we are coming to under the present trend. Our Board of Education encourages football teams of the children who attend the grammar schools of this city, and we see thousands of prospective heroes on the future gridiron—is that term right?—on every vacant lot of the city thumping the "sphere" and getting in shape to make the team.

We have seen Dr. Paul Rader coaching a bunch of high-school boys to become heroes, or members of Congress, probably bouncers in stadiums. We see the other dignified ministers of the Presbyterian churches of this city shouting themselves hoarse and tossing their hats into the air as their teams of children struggle over a muddy field and make a touchdown. Pages of our metropolitan dailies are filled with the exploits of these children, and pictures of the heroic teams are featured. And so on and so on. Presently the football craze will be over, and then we shall have indoor basketball for boys and girls, and then will come baseball, in which all these children, from the cradle up, will take part. By the way, would it be pertinent to ask if any consideration is given studies in our grammar schools and high schools, or our colleges? With all this footballing and baseballing and indoor basketballing, where can the studies have consideration? A few years ago scholarship in any branch, either the grammar, high or college, was the climax of honor; now it is the ability to make a touchdown, put the ball over the plate or pull down a hot grounder that fetches the greatest honors. Oratory, ability to solve great mathematical problems, skill in the framing of sentences and using high-class English commanded the highest honor, but alas! these small things are relegated to the background and another standard of honor has been raised in all our schools, beginning at the cradle roll and ending at our colleges.

The sawbuck is neglected. Father and mother carry in the wood and hoe the garden, for their darling heroes are football and baseball experts and cannot expect to do these ignominious things. Susan is down at the gymnasium playing indoor basketball, while mother is at home doing up the family washing, scrubbing the floor or ironing Susan's new waist so she can appear at the next game in style. Well, perhaps, I am an old fogey to imagine that the heroic age of athletics is not the highest attainment of the human race, but darn me, it looks as if we were drifting in that direction.

MRS. MARY SMITH JONES,
Mother of four football heroes and female basketball champion.

HOW BRYAN CAN SERVE NATION.

Let Him Keep His Party Continuously Out of Power.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

Mr. Bryan says his party has accomplished great good, even out of power. He therefore tells the Democrats to cheer up. They can remain out of power and still accomplish good.

It would be indeed ungenerous to deny the good accomplished by Mr. Bryan and his party while out of power. It is so much greater than could have been expected of the same party in power that it tempts us to be specific.

By remaining out of power from 1896 to 1900 Mr. Bryan and his party saved the country from the debasement of the currency, the lowering of our credit, and the wholesale repudiation of just debts which would have followed the adoption of free silver.

They rendered a no less patriotic service by staying out of power for the four following years. To that, and that alone, is to be ascribed the fact that the country was not stampeded with the silly cry of anti-imperialism into saying to the world that it was incapable of handling the problems left by the Spanish-American War.

The good accomplished by its remaining out of power four years from 1908 will be equally noticeable. When one considers Mr. Bryan's utterances since 1904 about Government ownership of railways and other subjects, it grows clear that he did the country a substantial service by not being elected.

There may be some Republicans too hidebound to admit the good accomplished by the party out of power. The Inter Ocean is not that kind. When credit is plainly due it counts it wrong to withhold it.

That is the reason we agree so unreservedly with Mr. Bryan's view of the benefits conferred on this country by his party out of power.

Canada's Postal Savings System.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

There are some conveniences about a postal savings bank system, like that of Canada, for instance, which must be highly appreciated by certain classes of depositors. A person may open an account at one postoffice and continue it at any number of other offices, depositing wherever he may happen to be, and yet have the whole amount at his command at any one office, should he wish to withdraw it. This is made easy by the fact that his account is kept at the Postmaster-General's office in Ottawa. A family moving from one place to another does not have to draw its money from the savings bank and carry it along, at the risk of robbery. It finds the amount at its disposal wherever it goes. A commercial traveler, depositing in 20 towns, has the sum of all available at his home office as soon as a letter can pass to and from Ottawa.

Elections Too Costly.

Boston Globe.

Once in four years, under our political system, the American people certainly expend a vast amount of money in order to decide whether there shall be a change in the Federal Administration and in the offices of Governor and in State Legislatures. Whether there will ever be a sensible reduction in these expenditures remains to be seen, but there is a strong belief on the part of the public that there is now much unnecessary expense connected with all elections.

Crisis in Astoria.

From Astorian.

With a million-dollar seawall, and a million-dollar Council, both creations of Hon. A. M. Smith, candidate for the mayoralty, and supreme spokesman for the Democratic party, of Astoria, there will be an exodus from this city that will make the very state stare, shortly after the 9th of December.

HONORED BY NEIGHBORING STATE

George H. Himes Receives Praise and Plaudits at Berkeley, Cal.

BERKELEY, Cal., Nov. 22.—(To the Editor.)—All Oregonians who are interested in the history of their state have some appreciation of the debt of gratitude they owe to George H. Himes. The greater their interest and intelligence in the subject, the greater their appreciation of the work Mr. Himes is doing in collecting materials illuminative of the early days of Oregon.

Certainly a word telling how he is appreciated away from home will be of interest and in place. The annual meeting of the Pacific Coast branch of the American Historical Association was held here yesterday. Mr. Himes came down from Portland to attend, and was accorded such a hearty welcome as could not have been extended without a due appreciation of his services in the field of Pacific Coast history. In the selection of officers for the ensuing year he was given immediate recognition in the election to the vice-presidency. At the banquet in the evening, held at the Faculty Club of the University of California, he was given the seat of honor, next to president of the association, James D. Phelan, of San Francisco, and Professor Henry Morse Stephens, well-known historian and head of the history department of the University of California. In an eloquent after-dinner speech, Professor Stephens paid a glowing tribute to Mr. Himes, which was greeted with a storm of applause. Professor Stephens bewailed the fact, as he does often in private conversation, of the lack of systematic work in the collection and care of the historical treasures of this state, and attributed this remissness to the fact that "California has no Himes."

Mr. Himes replied in a fitting manner, and in the course of his remarks dwelt with effect upon the essential unity of Pacific Coast history. He is spending two or three days at the university, examining the rich materials of the famous Bancroft Library.

W. C. WOODWARD.

President Eliot as a College Boy.

Richard Washburn Child in Collier's.

His Harvard classmates remember President Eliot in college as an austere boy, ever impressing their instincts as being far away from them, ever impressing their mentalities as being very near and loving and human. One of his fellows, writing of those days, says that Eliot was shy and retiring. A poor choice of words. He was not shy and retiring, unless the East Indian who sits upon the bank of the Ganges and thinks may be called shy and retiring. Oliver Wendell Holmes spoke of this kind of man as a Brahmin. But Eliot was not an Oriental then; he is not now. Then he studied and exercised hard, now at 75, he loves to run to a fire, like a boy, and, with Mrs. Eliot, rides a bicycle every early morning of the pleasant year. He is not a Brahmin. He cares too much for life. And though he refused the offer of membership to several clubs when he was a student, and although he was undoubtedly a "grind," he was not then and is not now a man of great importance to himself. In a faculty meeting not long ago a professor spoke to him a spontaneous word of praise—a statement of how secure was his name in the history of education. The president smiled. It was not until the meeting was breaking up that he said suddenly: "Who was president of the university a hundred years ago?" No one knew. And Eliot smiled again—that gentle smile of his, that curious little smile that one feels must mean a mind within that can lift itself out of the plane of other minds about. So many men try to imitate that kind of smile. Little men have said that Eliot is snug, but larger men are not so sure.

A Question for the Senate.

Washington (D. C.) Post.

Can the Legislators of Oregon barter their privilege and duty of choosing a Senator for the opportunity to hold office? Can they transfer to another body, even if it be the people, the right to choose a Senator? And if they do attempt to make such a bargain, and ratify it by their votes, is the Senate bound to receive such a man as Senator?

The Senate, as the judge of the elections of its members, may be asked to look into the facts concerning the election of the Oregon claimant. The committee on privileges and elections may be confronted with the question whether a man chosen by the people, as the result of a bargain by which the Legislature tried to sell and convey its constitutional privilege, is entitled to a seat in the Senate. The Senate may decide that there is a great difference between "chosen" and "ratified." The fact is that the Oregon Senator was chosen last June. The Legislature is not making a choice when it has only one person to vote for, and is bound to vote for him.

The people and Legislature of Oregon have knocked out the Constitution, but they have still to deal with the Senate.

Mr. Rockefeller's Fascinating Story.

New York World.

Laying aside all prejudice against Standard Oil methods, it may be said that the story told to fewer than 100 persons on the fifth floor of the new Custom-House by John D. Rockefeller is as fascinating as a novel by Jules Verne, with the added interest that pertains to facts as compared with fiction. As the narrative progressed from the days when Mr. Rockefeller and his associates began business in 1862 with only $4000 and the earlier years when competitors who were bought out by Mr. Rockefeller refused to take stock but demanded cash, the imaginative auditor could hear the doors of opportunity and of millions closing against some and opening to others. A wonderful story, told in clear-cut sentences by the master mind of the greatest corporation in the world. It is apparent that Mr. Rockefeller blundered when he undertook to write his memoirs. He is incomparably more fascinating as a witness than as an author.

How Is This for a Spelling Test?

New York Press.

The other night in an upper West Side home there was a spelling bee at which some forty-odd guests fell down. The hostess offered the following sentence as a test:

"It is an agreeable sight to perceive the unparalleled embarrassment of an harassed peddler attempting to gauge the symmetry of a peeled onion which a sibyl had stabbed with a poignard, regardless of the innuendoes of the illies of a carnelian hue."

The president of a college made five errors in writing it, a learned clergyman made seven, and an eminent teacher and lecturer made six.

The Informer.

Chicago Tribune.

"Teacher," said Dicky Jones, sidling up to the desk and speaking in a whisper, "Tommy Tucker's trying to look cross-eyed, like you look."

It is scarcely necessary to add that it was Dicy Jones that got the subsequent whipping.

Sad Loss of Memory.

Pittsburg Gazette-Times.

Down in Washington the oldest inhabitant will be forgetting what a Democratic President looks like.

A Mystery.

New York Evening Sun.

Why will woman keep on marrying Mr. Nat Goodwin?