The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JAN. 22, 1909.

WHERE THE DEFECTS LIE. But, though Statement One here after be ignored by candidates, as it may properly be-for it is not law at all-the primary law of Oregon will never, in its present form give results satisfactory to the people or to the

electorate. Its confusing and unsatisfactory consequences may be overlooked as to minor offices; but as to leading offices, which call for repre-sentative men, and which fix, determine and direct the political policy of the country. It is, and always will be, a failure. It brings men to the front who do not represent the ideas and purposes of the people, and it defeats egitimate efforts to shape party and political policy.

It calls out as candidates a swarm of persons for each office, few of whom would be thought of for responsible or representative positions under any system which permitted examination of the merits of candidates. We have said it calls out a swarm of such; but the correct expression would be that it enables such to nominate themselves. This, a multitude who never would be considered representative citizens, and therefore could not obtain nominations in any convention er deliberative body, hasten to do; they nominate themselves. But men of genuine self-respect and best ability to keep out of the contest; some one, out of many, self-nominated, gets a small plurality; all his competitors are angry and most others are disgusted. The outcome is either the election of men whom the majority doesn't want, or, party defeat and loss of the purposes and objects of legitimate party organination and effort. As to local and inferior offices, this may not matter much; but as to the higher offices, which are invested with political significance, it is an important matter. No method of defeating the actual will and purposes of equally effective, ever was employed

Exception from this nominating system of the principal offices—those that really belong to politics and through which the general policy of the country is directed-would remove the chief part of this evil. Men might then for the county offices, and it might not matter much which ones of the various groups of the opposing parties were nominated or Representative conventions, directed by each party for itself, should decide the others. It is the only possible method of approximation to the political will of the people. -neither Bourne nor Champeople, or is a representative of the kind is merest impudence. Each was deceptive or double-cross tricks ever known in this state or in any other. Yet such results are put forth as triumphs of the popular will! Plainness and honesty have won great victories! So in King Lear:-

This kind of knaves I know, who in their Harbor more craft and more corrupter ends

Than twenty silly ducking observants. Who stretch their duties nicely. One has only to read the sorrowful speeches of some thirty members of the Legislature who had been trapped

by the bunco game. Under this primary system the intrusion of one party into the affairs of the other, such as we all saw last Spring in Oregon, when Democrats, registering as Republicans, nominated Bench. the Republican candidate for the United States Senate, and Republican candidates for the Legislature who would "take the pledge," then in the general election shifted their votes to the Democratic candidate for the Senate, and, neglecting to nominate candidates of their own for the Legislature, threw their votes in for such twice more, when the House of Com-Republican candidates as would pledge themselves to vote in the Legislature to confirm the bogus result which fourth as many votes as Wilkes. This they called "the people's choice."this intrusion, we say, of one party into the affairs of the other, creates a system of politics more immoral than anything ever known in our history. finally, in 1774, was returned to Par-Its foundations are perjury, intrigue, liament again. This time he took his and six months' loans 3% to 3% per deception, lying and corruption, all of the worst description. Its results case here to illustrate the point that answer to its antecedents. If a method a government which seeks to defend were sought to defeat the actual will itself by libel suits does not as a rule or intent of the people, here is the

clared he was not their choice nor the choice of their party, a great majority of the people of Oregon-and then trapped as they were and under compulsion of "the game" voted for him-it will ring in the ears of Oregon for a while! And this, in politics, is offered as the highest possible of political morality! But if, in the changes of the pri-

vote of his party. missing names. But the Senators of is liable to be everthrown by what any piling up at a rapid rate.

the Legislature should elect the des-These are but general observations,

they, or others more or less resembling them may be brought forward for consideration. For we deem it abso-lutely certain that the primary law of Oregon will not be continued per-manently, in its present form. Experience amply proven that there is no possibility of obtaining an expression of the actual will of the people-particularly on matters of high political

THE OFFICIAL SYSTEM.

Short hours and easy bosses cause New York City to throw away \$20,-600,000 a year on its payroll, according to a statement which has been ade up for the board of estimate by Henry Bruere, director, and Dr. Frederick A. Cleveland, technical director f the bureau of municipal research. On an equal scale, in proportion to population and wealth, the same thing going on in Portland, Or. And the appetite is insatiable. The horseeach of old had two daughters, crying 'Give, give!" But the modern horseeech has many more.

They are at Salem, clamoring for increase of the number of offices in every part of the state, and for larger salaries for the present officials. And yet no person employed in public office does one-half day's work in the week; and for that one half day many or most get twice the amount of pay they could obtain in any private employment.

The oppression of the public by its official system is extreme. It is com-puted that 80 per cent of all the taxes we pay goes to fatten the payrolis, eaving only 20 per cent or less, for materials and betterments. No official expects to do anything, nor his first The little indispensable work that must be done, the lower deputies and clerks and "subs," all enormously overpaid, for short hours, atchiefs is expended upon elections and in lobbying the Legislature, or in besteging the Common Council for more

A REGRETTABLE TENDENCY. It is doubtful whether President Roosevelt has ever stopped to reflect upon the tendency of the measures serve the public and honor the state, which he has taken from time to time against the press of the country. His worst foes do not accuse him of permitting the pale cast of thought to sickly o'er his impulses. Indeed there is a common opinion that he is disposed to act first and think afterward. If this is true it is lucky that his im-pulses are so generally right. It would be hard to specify more than two or three of his official acts which could have been improved by the most prolonged reflection. Perhaps in him the eternal feminine, which Goethe says exists in all of us, takes the form of an intuition that replaces reason. But in his operations against the freedom of the press Mr. Roosevelt's intuition, or impulse, or whatever it may be, seems not to have guided him quite so reliably as it has in his operations against predatory wealth. He has possibly yielded to the temptation which almost inevitably besets men n power to look upon disrespect to themselves as treason to the govern-

This tendency is by no means con fined to statesmen and rulers, but we need not trace it further just now. Of course there is some basis of reason underlying it. Gross disrespect to the men who compose a government les-Otherwise the operation becomes a sens its efficiency and might conceivmere trick game. Neither of the ably seduce the people into rebellion. Because of this basis of berlain-has actually come from the Germans have tolerated the Kaiser's numeroussuits for less majeste against political entity known as the State of his subjects. Actions against indi-Oregon. To pretend anything of the viduals for libeling the government were a favorite means of suppressing elected by a system of political free speech in England up to the close manipulation and thimble-rigging far of the eighteenth century. Perhaps in advance of all the intrigues and the most famous of them was the persecution of John Wilkes, who died in 1797. When the peace of Huberts-burg was concluded in 1763, through which Frederick the Great was left in the lurch by his English allies, Wilkes attacked what he called the treachery of the government with great virulence in his paper, the North Briton His malignancy probably exceeded anything the New York Sun has exhibited against Mr. Roosevelt, though that is doubtful.

Wilkes was arrested for libeling the government, but being at the tim fember of Parliament he pleaded his privilege and was released. Court party, however, induced Parliament to expel him and then he was found guilty of the libel at the King's Wilkes was m Paris at the time, for his health, and since he did not appear to be sentenced he was declared an outlaw and lived abroad until 1768, when he returned and was re-elected, to Parliament for the borough of Middlesex. party again had him expelled, but he was re-elected, and this was repeated mons closed the affair by seating his opponent, who had received only onepersecution made its victim exceedngly popular. He received large con tributions of money, was elected Alderman, Lord Mayor of London and sent in triumph. We cite his famous accomplish its purpose. It makes no consummate flower and fruit of it. friends and excites implacable enmi-The cry of the betrayed members of the Legislature, who elected Chamber- from limiting the freedom of the press amount of gold without an unfavor- lain, but who first repudiated the in England, won for the papers the whole bunco game and spit on it, de- privilege of printing the parliamentary debates, which they had never enjoyed Moreover it made a popular

virtue was as slender as his ability. not, on the face of it, prosecuting the the New York bankers gave the in-New York World and the Indianapolis | terior banks during the panic a year News for libel, but it comes to that. achievement, the one superior triumph Mr. Roosevelt has instigated the suit and without his persistent urgency it the confidence of their victims, would not have been pressed. The mary law, the nomination of higher ostensible charge is that Charles Taft officials, who represent and direct the and Mr. Robinson were libeled, but in tural districts, where crops were good policy of the country, is not to be reality the offense was committed excepted, the law should be changed against Mr. Roosevelt's Administraso that no party nomination for such tion, and it is to punish that offense offices should have place on the of- that the action has been brought. ficial ballot unless the candidate had Upon this point we conceive that fairreceived fifty per cent or more of the minded men will not disagree. In shipping it to New York. This, ruling shy- many respects the proceeding is unsters out, would bring some approach fortunate. For one thing it may be to representative nominations. Party suggested that the United States that has been made by the European conventions then could supply the Government is not so instable that it demand and the reserves have been

voted for at all in the general elec- about it. Again, if Charles Taft has tion. It should be enough to vote for been libeled, as he probably has been, in the general primary. Then the law provides him a remedy and he possesses money enough to seek it ignated candidate of the party whose without troubling the Administration majority might prevail in that body. to take up his cause. But aside from such considerations the public looks When the time becomes favorable with well grounded suspicion upon anything whatever that can be interpreted as an attack upon the freedom of the press. All imaginable ill consequences from excessive license are as nothing compared with the evils of a press which has been harried into subservience and a Government which has freed itself from the restraint of criticism. This is the outcome to which Mr. Roosevelt's libel suits tend though he may not know it or wish it. It might interest him to recall the punishment which the country flicted on the old Federalist party for passing the Alien and Sedition acts. Adams' provocation was greater than the World gave Mr. Roosevelt, but the people wrecked the party which sought to muzzle the press.

> THE EARTH'S INHABITANTS. Latest available summary of the opulation of Asia gives a total of 916,247,585; of Europe, 407,423,696; of Africa, 147,229,102; of North America, 119,128,388; of South Amer-

ica, 44,436,208; of Oceania, 51,115,278. Total of the globe, 1,685,600,257. It is supposed to be an increase of about 200,000,000 in fifty years. Latest estimates of population of principal cities are these: London, 7.217,941; New York, 4,113,043; Paris, 2,763,393; Chicago, 2,166,055; Berlin, 2,040,148; Vienna, 1.999,912;

Tokyo, 1,818,655; Philadelphia, 1,441,-735. The population assigned to Lordon stretches into suburbs at great distances from the center of the citya radius of fifteen to twenty miles from Charing Cross. Within the limits of New York the distances are much less; and in New Jersey, cities adjoining to New York have nearly Within fifty 1,000,000 inhabitants. years New York undoubtedly will be the center of the largest populationwithin a diameter of fifty miles-of any city in the world."

MOISTURE MEANS MONEY. The Chinook wind which swept over

the country a few days ago was not one of those ill winds that blows nobody good. To be sure, it brought with it a sousing rain, which has caused heavy floods in many localities east of the mountains, and the railroads have been hard hit by the surplus water that wandered out of lis proper channels. Trains have been delayed, and both passengers and freight schedules have been tempor-arily put out of commission. But while the Chinook and the warm rain which accompanied it have been spreading havoc along the river and railroad it has been making amends for all damage of that nature by providing moisture for a large grain crop, In a few exposed points the ground was frozen pretty hard before the snow fell and with the rapid thaw much of the moisture was swept away

into the rivers. Over a large portion of the Inland Empire, however, removal of the snow covering was prolonged sufficiently to permit much of the moisture to soak ato the soil, and wherever fall plowing was done the ground was in excelent condition for holding and absorbing this moisture. As a result, the Winter wheat will be in condition to n the Spring, and the ground will also be in excellent condition for a erop of Spring wheat. The railroads are the heaviest losers by this big snow orm and the chinook and rain that followed it, but the railroads will also be large gainers by the improved crop conditions which resulted from the storm. The Pacific Northwest in 1907 narvested a crop of 58,000,000 bushels of wheat. Last year, owing to unfavorable climatic conditions, the output 'ell short of that figure by more than

16,000,000 bushels. This year, with the large acreage and the very favorable conditions created by the weather, we should reach f not exceed the record of 1907. If the present fine outlook does not change, the railroads will later in the be called on to handle a grain traffic at least one-third greater than ast year's, and the earnings therefrom will make the cost of repairing storm damage seem insignificant. difference in the value of last year's wheat crop and that of the preceding year was more than \$15,000,000, and the crop which is now being so well watered by the floods will, under favorable circumstances until harvest, show a corresponding increase in value over last year. Much flood damage can be repaired with \$15,000,-660 and still leave available for general circulation a large sum of money.

GOLD GOING ABROAD.

The "back flow" of gold brought into this country at great expense about a year ago has set in; every steamer leaving New York is taking out large consignments. Some financlers predict that the movement may reach a total of \$50,000,000 before it is checked by an easing of the strained financial situation abroad. Usually gold exports are regarded with some misgivings; but, despite the large engagements that have been made, there has been no perceptible hardening in the Eastern money markets. Call money hovers around 1 and 2 per cent, with cent. There is nothing in these quotations, which are based on actual transctions this week, that would indicate any danger of a shortage of gold in this country.

It is a very unusual situation which ties. The persecution of Wilkes, far admits of the export of such a large country. At the present time it has been made possible by the steady flow of funds from interior points to hero of a mediocre individual whose New York, the banking metrophero was as siender as his ability. olis of the country. In view The United States Government is of the drastic treatment which ago, it may seem somewhat surprising that they should have so soon regained explanation undoubtedly lies in the remarkable prosperity in the agriculand prices high. Borrowers are still somewhat timld about resuming active operations. Country banks ing but Hitle use for money that is not earning something, have been The volume of this movement has thus far been sufficient to more than offset any drain

the United States ought not to be two or two dozen newspapers may say | For the week ending last Saturday | pie,"

clearing-house were broken with an increase in deposits of \$45,109,400. Total deposits in the clearing-house banks and those of the banks and trust companies not reporting through the clearing-house reached the enormous sum of \$2,552,408,700. There has been some loan expansion in the past few weeks, but it has not been in keeping with the increase in deposits, and last Saturday the surplus reserve was \$25,588,175. It has worked back up to this figure from \$10,000,000 on December 19, and it is necessary to go back to 1897 to find a corresponding week that shows such a large re-

That large stocks of idle money do not necessarily imply prosperous times, but on the contrary are evidence of dullness and stagnation, is shown by comparison with former years. In January, 1907, during the most prosperous times this country has ever known, this reserve fell away to about \$8,000,000, and in 1906, which was also a very prosperous year, it was down to \$500,000 in January. There has been some addition to the gold supply of the country since the panic of a year ago, but nothing in com-parison to the increase in the amount of money now in sight. With the Eastern market flooded with cheap money and financiers regarding with equanimity prospective shipments of \$50,000,000 in gold to Europe, it becomes more apparent than ever that our fright of a year ago was as needless as it was harmful. We had to pay high rates to bring the gold in from Europe, and we are now obliged to pay for its return, for the admirable banking system of England, through the flexibility of the money system enables that country to draw in gold from the four corners of the earth at little or no expense except to the shipper.

The Oregonian is in receipt of a ommunication from the Idaho woolgrowers taking exception to comment made on their plans for storing wool. We are assured that it is not a combination or trust to force prices, that "there is no such intention on the part of the growers whatsoever," and that the movement "is simply a cooperative plan on the part of the Western woolgrowers to get their product within reach of the consumer and sell it on its merits in the open market." This is indeed a most praiseworthy plan, and should suc-Any project that can improve the conditions and better the circumstances of both buyer and seller by the same transaction will be welcomed. The plan should be tried by the wheat men so that they could secure higher prices and at the same time cheapen the cost for the consumer.

Russia's recent borrowing of \$280,-000,000 has the appearance of a mammoth financial transaction, and the fact that such a vast sum was being collected had considerable effect on exchange rates for a short time. Now that the loan has been completed, it develops that it did not require very much more real money to swing the deal than is needed for a moderate game of high finance. Forty millions in commissions and discounts were lopped off the principal at the begin-From the remaining \$240,000,-000 it was necessary to deduct \$150, 606,660 for obligations due in May. Theoretically, Russia would still have withstand almost any kind of weather the tidy sum of \$90,000,000 to the good, but as there is a deficit of \$76,-000,000 in this year's budget, the Russian government will really \$14,000,000 out of a loan of \$280,000,-000. This is strange financiering, but many strange things happen in Russia.

Those psychic researchers who e to draw aside the veil which conceals the infinite from the finite, who desire to establish communication between the Here and the Here-after and who believe that when this has been accomplished, dwellers upon this earth will gain the knowledge possessed by the inhabitants of the realm of spirits, may well ask themselves the intensely practical though somewhat slangy question, "What's the use ?"

Heaven from all creatures hides the book of fate, All but the page presurited, their present

state; spirits know:
Else who could suffer being here below?
The lamb thy riot dooms to bleed today.
Had he thy reason would he skip and play?
Pleased to the last he crops the flow'ry food
And licks the hand just raised to shed his blood.

Sumpter resents the stories going the rounds that the townsite is to be plowed up. In the boom days many acres of additions were platted and are unsold. Much of this land will be put to good use. Sumpter is a mining town and its prosperity comes from below the surface. It is not going out of existence for a long time. Some day men who own good property there will undertake the development they owe the industry. Then Sumpter will be a large-sized dot en the map.

Since Wallowa County was "discovered" by the building of a line of railof its new industries is shipping live pork by the carload. Wallowa resembles the backward youth who made good when he got ready.

Observe that some twenty-five of the Republicans who voted for Chamberlain actually repudiated him in their speeches. How can he and his party regard this as a compliment? The very men whose votes elected him repudiated him.

Ex-Judge Gordon, charged with embezzling \$9200 from the Great Northern Railroad, says "he has committed no crime." No doubt, Merely an indiscretion.

Listening to the sighing of the gentle South wind at forty miles a sigh, the resident of Oregon deliberately forgets the recent spell of weather. The moon changed last night and a

your trust in prophets. About the only time a lot of Portland people remember that we have a river is when it roars along 18 feet

bit of the blue sky appeared before

Jonathan says that he and his new colleague are "equally from the peo-So are Sin and Sorrow,

or more above low water.

all previous records of the New York PRIMARY LAW IN MINNESOTA EXTEND U. S. PRESIDENTIAL TERM

amary of the Objections Against It from Experience in That State. The St. Paul Ploneer-Press says the Republican Legislature of Minnesota will repeal the primary law of the state. Results of experience of the last six years in Minnesota are thus presented:

The people have discovered the difference between the theoretical view of th direct primary, which fascinated them-as it did the Pioneer Press-six years ago, and its results as seen under the operation of the law. These results are in brief;

1. The candidates nominate themselves, and the Idea that they are picked out by the people proves to be a pure delusion.

2. The contest in the primary develops more personal animosities, breaks more friendships, and leads to more lasting bitternesses between men of the same party than ever existed between men of opposing parties say Republicans and Democrats. As a Republicans and Democrats. As a breeder of family quarrels the primary takes first place among the inventions of democrats. of demagogy.

3. Democrats vote at Republican and Republicans at Democratic primaries, in order to foist upon the party men who can be easily defeated, markable illustration of this is seen in the last primary in Oregon.

4. So many candidates nominate themselves for various offices that the minority men, whom a large majority of the voters would repudiate, frequently carry off the honors of the

5. The primary gives the man with the longest purse an advantage over every competitor. It reduces the con-test to one of personal advertising and

Into such a contest self-respecting men—those possessing the best qualifications for office—will not en-ter. This leaves the field clear for selfeekers and incapables. It is interest to observe how many such, whom intelligent nominating convention ould never dream of naming, have oisted themselves upon the people as candidates.

7. As applied to selection of judges, it encourages every plausible attorney to look for the honors of the hench. The "bar at large," which before the advent of the direct primary justly exercised a great non-partisan influence in directing the choice of able, scholarin directing the choice of able, scholarly jurista, is by the primary robbed of
that influence; and judicial candidates
age compelled to "wade in the mire of
politics" and beg for a nomination.

8. The practical impossibility that
the average voter should have any personal acquaintance with candidates for
any but local offices robs the boasted
"choice by the people" at the primary

"choice by the people" at the primary of any substantial merits.

of any substantial merita.

So The maintenance of party organizations is a necessity if the Democratic idea of government by the majority is to be preserved. The primary destroys party organizations.

Inured as our people to "representative government," they would after six years of experimentation with the primary, far rather commit to a body of selected delegates the work of choosselected delegates the work of cl ing fit men for most positions than attempt the job themselves. They do not like to "go it blind" in the discharge of any political duty. They want to act intelligently or not at all. Let the choice of delegates to pomina-ting conventions be hedged round with the same barriers against fraud as are erected around the nominating primary, and they will rejoice in a return to a principle far more in harmony with the historical ideas of our Republic. The primary law will have served one good purpose, in pointing the way to such a guarded plan for electing deleto conventions.

gates to conventions.

Intelligent Democrats have no more use for the primary law as it now stands than have intelligent Repub-This will probably be revealed debate when the matter comes up in the Legislature.

The Oregonian in the East.

Altoona (Pa.) Mirror. The President of the Mirror Company, Mr. Harry Slep, is in receipt of a recent issue of "The Morning Ore-gonian," published at Portland, Or. a recent issue of that indicates that in the way

paper enterprise, the effete East has nothing on the blooming West.

The New Year day number of The Oregonian printed on January 1, 1969, contains 62 pages, and there is no section of it that will not compare farmerable with any issue ever gotten vorably with any issue ever gotten out by any of the metropolitan papers of the Eastern cities. The telegraphic columns cover every current event in the world, and all the other depart-ments of the first section are the equal of any paper in the country. The profusely and artistically illustrated magazine sections would be a credit to any newspaper plant. The advantages and trade developments of the golden West, and particularly of the City of Port-land, are set forth in a way that ought to make the city very proud of its advocate, and judging from the number of full-page advertisements, the business people give the sheet their hearty co-operation. Truly The Ore-gonian is a great paper.

Lack of Respect for Congress.

Baltimore News.

Of course, a rebuke such as that Congress gave the President is a very serious thing, and ought to be taken seriously. Yet it is impossible to make the country do so. Exactly why this is true it is hard to say. But it is certain that the public has not the respect for Congress it ought to have. And we incline to think that one reason for this is that the standard of Congressional timber from the great Baltimore News. Congressional timber from the great cities is so low that the metropolitan ered" by the building of a line of railroad, that hitherto backward region is
coming to the front by leaps and
bounds. Wallowa is a county in Oregon where they grow 300-pound yearling pigs on pall and pasture, and one
of its new industries is shipping live

of its new industries is shipping live largely to the fact that we curseives, do not show respect for Congress by sending to it the class of men we ought to send. At least, this is as ought to send. At least, this is as good an explanation as has yet been offered for public indifference to Pres-idential abuse of the lower House.

Memphis News-Scimitar. From ignorance to the highest pow From ignorance to the highest power, from the tallow dip to the fierce light that beats upon thrones, from humility to grandeur, his walk was always that of a modest struggler who was sincere in every thought and ambition and who loved well "every man, and bird and beast." He reached the heights by virtue of his grasp of public issues and the plain solution he found for them. It was genius and it was heart. He had the genius to cope with the greatest problem the Anglo-Saxon race has ever faced, and he had a heart that solved it to the satisfaca heart that solved it to the satisfac-tion of all the ages. So great and so simple, he will live forever in song and story, and though at the head of all the armies of his country, he will be loved most for his gentleness and dark. Bet on the moon and put not his desire for peace.

New York Herald.

A London writer has come to the front with a mass of documentary evidence to prove that Robin Hood was a real personage. Thank goodness! The inconoclast has wiped out everybody else. This leaves us two—the Outlay of Sherwood Forest and Analas.

Should Be One of Six Years and "Never Again," Says J. D. Lee. PORTLAND, Jan. 21 .- (To the Edtor.) - From several quarters come the ciamor for change. The pessimist believes that in the political, financial, social and moral realms there exists so much that is bad, changes must certainly be made, and the optimist sees so many attractive improvements pos-sible that he, too, becomes a champlon for change.

The conservative is inclined to make haste slowly, for reaction from radi-calism not infrequently becomes a retrograde force that sweeps away whatever real progress has been made and leaves conditions less favorable for true reform. Every well-wisher of the country desires its advancement, but realizes that true progress must be intelligent, effective and enduring. The campaigns and elections of 1908 are over. We can now take notes and glean lessons that may be helpful in the future and inaugurate movements for our ultimate benefit.

States, say to six years, and of placing an inhibition upon any incumbent's second candidacy. The reasons are many, but a few will suffice. The lengthening of the Presidential term will diminish the number of National campaigns with their vast expenditure of energy and money and the increase of party rancor, intrigue, ill-will and contention among the people. Every Presidential year is characterized by lethargy in business or something worse. All lines of business are more or less affected injuriously by the pos-

sibility of a change of policy. Their recurrence would be diminished. Again, the natural ambition of any officeholder, during his first term at seast is to succeed himself. This makes tim timid and self-seeking. His political fences must be constantly looked after, and he is brought under obligaions to interests which he should be position to deal with fearlessly. Thus the efficiency of his second term is liable to be weakened. But the incumbent who knows at the beginning that he has only one term to serve care. be a free lance. It will be his ambi-tion to make it a success. If he has large plans and broad policies, six years will enable him to inaugurate and successfully prosecute them. The dogs of would-be successors would not be snapping at his heels. That he would encounter opposition from schools of political thought different from his own must be expected, but such opposition would be sentimental. If by any means an unworthy man should get that high office, impeachment would be the remedy, & minor objections can be raised, from every important viewpoint it seems to me that the consideration and arguments are greatly in favor of the

Incidentally I will allude to a suggestion that has been made that the inauguration day be changed from March 4 to a later date that would almost insure good weather. Such change is desirable. The date, March 4. was decided upon because it so rarely came on Sunday. President Hayes was inaugurated March 5, 1877, ithout embarrassment or bad results. Both changes could be made at the same time. All of our people are certainly interested in extending the length of the Presidential official term. J. D. LEE.

CALLS IT A NEFARIOUS SCHEME One California Voice Against San

Francisco's Water Grab. BERKELEY, Cal., Jan. 17.—(To the Editor.)—I have read your two editorials on the nefarious water scheme of San Francisco, and wish I could shake hands with you across the mounshake hands with you across the mountains. You have exact knowledge of the situation and know how to drive it home with a trenchant pen. I have just returned from Washington, where I went at Mr. Muir's request, and did my best to block the destructive scheme. But three days ago five additional representatives of the city went on to Washington to try, by sheer force on to Washington to try, by sheer force of numbers, to railroad the bill through Congress. I wish you could go personally as the representative of the protest before the committee. case, I hope you will see to it that all the members of Congress get marked copies of your paper. We are sending out several thousand pamphlets to editers and are hoping for an immediate

response.
Incidentally, I went to Boston and spoke on the scheme before an immense udience at the Institute of Technology. The meeting was held under the aus-pices of the Appalachian Mountain Club, whose members, by unanimous vote, after the address, deputed one of Bos-ton's ablest lawyers, Mr. E. A. Whitman, to represent them in Washing-ton. I find that one only needs to let the light of day get at this scheme and people are aroused immediately. most disheartening feature of the nation is the attitude of Secretary Garrield. I had a short conference with him and am simply amazed at his point of view and the lack of seriousness with which he regards this assault upon the perpetuity of the Nation's playgrounds. As you know, in the text of the grant, he expressly repudlates the obligation to ascertain whether such a sacrifice is justified or not. Drastic protests will have to be made WILLIAM FREDERIC BADE.

Dr. Mitchell's New Hymn.

Philadelphia Ledger. "Ave, Pennsylvania!" a new university hymn, by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, was sung for the first time last night at the annual Franklin birthday dinner of the Franklin Inn Club. The music of the song was composed by Professor Hugh Archibald Clarke, of the university, and the whole is dedi-cated to the provost, Charles C. Harri-son. The words of the hymn which have not hitherto been publicly printed,

Ave maternal Loving and wise, The light of the ages Is bright in thy eyes. Ave triumphans!
Proud heiress of him
Whose fame writ in lightning
Shall time never dim.

Mater ameta!
Mother adored
Of men who were noble
By pen and by sword. The earth and the ocean Have taken thy sons Where fluttered the star flag And thundered the guns.

Though peaceful thy mission And gentle thy hand If ever the war cloud Shall darken the land,

Or Hving or dying,
Thy trust we shall greet,
With harvests of bonor
To lay at thy feet.

Laurels unfading
Forever are thine.
But fresh are the roses
We lovingly twine. Mater dilecta!
Lo from above
Heaven smiles down on thee;
Take thou our love.

Roosevelt and the Blue Pencil.

LIFE'S SUNNY SIDE

Governor Stuget, at a dinner in Philadelphia during the opening of the opera season, said of a noted Philadelphia sci-"He is the most exact man I ever met.

He believes in nothing but proven facts. Continually he pins you down.

"One day I said to him:
"Canibalism—what an abomination!
To eat of human flesh! Brrr!"

"The old scientist frowned.

"Pardon me, but have you ever eaten of human flesh?" he said, severely.

of human lies...
"'No," said I.
"'Well, then," he demanded, 'why do
you speak of things that you know nothing at all about?"—Philadelphia Record.

The Teacher-Children, we make heroes of ourselves by doing our duty. Perry's duty was to whip the British, and he did it. The Light Brigade's duty was to attack the Russians without question, and they did it. All great heroes wentheir victories by doing their duty. Children, we have our duties. What should we do for the weak, the suffering, the oppressed?

Chorus of Pupils-Sail in an' lick 'em-Chorus of Pupils-Sall in an' lick 'em-Cleveland Leader.

An Englishman fond of boasting of his ancestry took a coin from his pecket and, pointing to the head engraved on it,

"My great-great-grandfather was made a lord by the king whose picture you see on this shilling."
"What a coincidence!" said his Yankee ompanion, who at once produced another oin. "My great-great-grandfather was

made an angel by the Indian whose plo-ture you see on this cent."—Pick-Me-Up. "I notice a man who had a cold in his head has committed suicide."
"Poor fellow! Now what foo! friend could have advised him to try that remedy?"—Philadelphia Ledger.

"Why is Rosalie weeping so?" "She and Bessie and I were playing at keeping house. Rosalie was the wife and was the husband."

"I hope you were not cross to her, Husbands and wives should never quarrel, you know."
"Oh, we didn't fight. Bessile was our mald, and she quit without giving us notice."-Chicago Record-Herald.

MAINE WEARY OF PROHIBITION "Dry" Policy Proposed for Rural Dis-tricts and "Wet" in Larger Cities.

New York Press Service Company. After four years of fruitless efforts to enforce state-wide Prohibition through the agency of a special police force under the direction of the Gov-ernor, the State of Maine is now going to repeal the law under which this tempt was made, and will return to its earlier methods of treating the perenrial liquor issues, declares Major Holman F. Day, the well-known Maine author, in an article which will appear in the February number of Appleton's Magazine. This means that in rural Magazine. districts and small towns where sentiment is strongly against liquor-seiling. Prohibition will be strictly en-forced, and in the larger cities of the state the law will be openly disregarded.

"To sum up the big difficulty in Maine," says Major Day, "there isn't real moral resolution behind the enforcement law, either in people or executives. In those communities where there is a sentiment against rum-sell-ing, no one tries to sell rum. In the City of Auburn, even in the most wideopen times of Sheriff-made law, no one has opened a liquor shop, though it might naturally be supposed that with 15,000 population there would be a call for light. There was, There still is, for liquor. There was. There still is. But right across the river from Auburn is the larger City of Lewiston, with saloons in the open times and dives in the tight times, and clubrooms all the time. The thirsty citizens of Auburn merely walk across the bridge.

"On the other hand, under the town agency system, the little town of Rundelph pays half its annual town bills by profits from the liquor agency. town is near the National Soldiers' Home at Togus. The Lewiston agency in a city of less than \$0,000 population did over \$10,000 worth of business in B The failure o state-wide enforcement is indicated by the fact that in Lewiston, the second largest city in Maine, from figures fur-nished by the Mayor, I find that arrests for intoxication during the past four years have steadily increased from something like 600 annually to over 1900 for the past 12 months. Yet Lew-iston is the only city in Maine where a large force of enforcement deputies has been on the job day and night, all

the time. the time.

"The spasms of enforcement and the iniquities of let-ups have never bothered the country towns, which have long been dry and probably slways will be. And these country towns cast two-thirds of the vote of Maine and constitute themselves the mentors of the words of the words of the mentors of the morals of the wicked cities. Maine is between the horns of a dilemma, for the sentimen: in favor of a Prohibition law is stronger than ever, and apparently the only course ahead of her is to lapse into the old system by which Sheriffs and politicians sold indulgencies for the violation of the law,"

IN THE MAGAZINE SECTION OF THE

Sunday Oregonian

THE HEART OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Notable article by Wayne Whipple, author of "The Story Life of Lincoln," detailing numerous incidents and anecdotes showing that Lincoln's greatness lay in his tender-heartedness. This trait gave him a place among the world's immortals.

PUBLIC SERVANTS THAT WON'T BE DISCHARGED

Prominent officials at Washington that Taft must retain because their services cannot bee dispensed with.

WON HER PEOPLE'S LOVE AT LAST

The Queen of Italy was an alien; the populace was cold. Now, since her heroic work in Sicily, the people adore her.

HOW AUTOMOBILES

ATTRACT FRIENDS The Hotel Clerk makes some remarks that may take the conceit out of popular owners of cars.

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