

The Oregonian

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Portland, Monday, March 8, 1909.

GOVERNOR OR ACTING GOVERNOR?

During the past week many people and newspapers have referred to F. W. Benson as "Acting Governor," upon the resignation of the Secretary of State and Acting Governor.

When Secretary of State Chadwick assumed the duties of Chief Executive in 1877, upon the resignation of Governor Groves, the question was raised as to whether the Governor in fact or merely acting Governor by virtue of his office as Secretary of State.

Anyone who will examine the language of the section of the constitution will see that there was some reason for the contention that it was the duties of the Secretary of State which should devolve upon the Governor.

This presentation of the subject is not designed as an effort to overturn the constitution that the court has given the constitution in this respect. That would be to open a Pandora's box.

WHAT ABOUT THE REVENUE?

Witnessing the rapid extension of "dry" territory in the United States, the defenders of the license system have asked from what source shall be secured the millions of revenue that now come from the internal revenue tax.

question is a practical one and those who propose to cut off one source of funds for maintenance of the Government should not seek to evade the problem of finding a new source.

Even if it be true that millions of gallons of liquor traffic, the evils of the liquor traffic, the remains, and must be answered, where are you going to get the money to replace this that is being turned away from the public treasury?

The revenue of the liquor traffic, not by the liquor dealer but by the liquor consumer. And, as everybody knows, a large proportion of the liquor consumers are people who pay no property tax.

Some gentlemen with a strong bent for discovery found a trade dollar at North Yaluma the other day. Immediately an enterprising newspaper reporter made a "story" to the effect that this rare North Yaluma specimen was one of the five remaining trade dollars in the United States.

What has become of the remaining 35,959,260 trade dollars which the North Yaluma chronicler says have disappeared from Oregon, since the trade dollar is able to locate some of them, since a number of letters have lately been received announcing the interesting fact that the writer has, each of them, a trade dollar.

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The short crop of wheat and early movement last Fall have cut down the foreign wheat and flour export business, which is usually of good proportion at this season of the year.

The fair-minded business man will deny that nothing more than fair play in any transaction, in order to determine exactly how much of a reduction has been effected, we must put the railroads on even terms with their competitors.

The complaint is frequently made, and with plenty of justification, that business men and states too often intrust their affairs to men who have not made a success of their own business.

Municipal government is not entirely a matter of finance. There are political questions involved in the regulation of the city.

pleasure and utility the homeless carriage is steadily gaining ground in this city as well as elsewhere.

In view of the number of errors that have been committed in the enrolling of bills in the Legislature, it might be a good idea to require each clerk to write his or her name on the margin of each sheet written, as a means of identification.

Travelers who have "enjoyed" the ride of 135 miles between Vale and Burns, in Harney Valley, will be interested in the news that automobiles are to replace the old-time stage.

Members of the Legislature are trying to escape responsibility for defects in the laws by saying that errors were due to carelessness of clerks who copied the bills.

It is to be hoped that it is a mistake that Vice-President Fairbanks is going to California to grow up with the country and raise oranges.

The Ohio Legislature has appropriated money for the erection of a monument in memory of the 170 school children who were burned in the Colfax school disaster.

Mr. Bryan says he is surprised that he got so many votes. But most people were surprised that he got so few.

Secretary of War Dickinson indignantly declares that he is a Democrat, although he owns up that he did not vote for Bryan.

Uncle Ike Stephenson's credentials as Senator from Wisconsin are sidetracked in a snowdrift somewhere on the way to Washington.

LET STATE CARE FOR EVERYBODY Hours are Short, Pay Good, and Easy Times are Thus Assured.

It is a different matter to keep down the growth of graft already authorized by a state, let alone prevent their multiplication, ad infinitum.

Unless a halt was called we would have after while a larger number of salaried men and women than we have of producers in the state.

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ALL ENGLAND STIRRED OVER A PLAY

Remarkable Drama That Exposes With Startling Reality the Unpreparedness of Great Britain to Repel a Foreign Invasion.

Literary Digest. The play "An Englishman's Home," now running in London, has created a tremendous sensation which is attributed to its dramatic value.

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