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, TUESDAY, JULY 20, 1909.

SENATE AND HOUSE.

The House of Representatives has the constitutional right to originate revenue bills. But the Senate assumes the right or usurps the function of changing these bills till the original intent of the House is subverted or destroyed. Perhaps in these times the infraction is not regarded as serious. But it is worth notice and mention. President Taft's interposition, at this time, on the tariff bill, is in the direction of re-establishing the constitutional function of the House. It is incidental that the tariff bill, as it left the House, is more nearly in accord with the expectation of the country, as to tariff reductions, than the substitute elaborated by the Senate.

For the Aldrich plan is virtually a substitute. It amends, indeed virtually rejects, the House bill, in nearly all essential particulars. We borrowed from the English constitution the plan of keeping "the power of the purse" under direct control of the representatives of the people; that is, the members of the House, rather than those of the Senate, just as in the English system the measures for revenue belong to the Commons, not to the Lords.

But perhaps it will be answered that under our system tariff bills have become measures for protection, and no longer are measures for revenue; and that in the strife for privilege and for its advantage, the policy of the Senate ought to prevail, rather than that of the House.

COAL, THE TRANSFORMER.

Great is agriculture as a resource, and great is the growing of cattle (using this word in its general sense, as including also horses, sheep, goats and swine). But even agriculture and livestock together have their limitations as producers of wealth; for, though production of food is the first basis of life, the resources that lie underground become more manifest sources of wealth with growth of population. Three-fourths of the industry and wealth of Pennsylvania have their basis in work underground. Merely as an agricultural state, Pennsylvania would now have no more people, no more industry, than it had three score years ago. Pennsylvania in 1840 had less than two million inhabitants. It has eight million now. The difference represents the growth of industries based on resources lying underground.

A remarkable change, based on like causes, is taking place in Southern Illinois. This oldest part of the state, long unprogressive, practically stationary, dependent chiefly on agriculture, which was decadent through exhaustion of the soil, is taking on new life through development of its mineral deposits, especially the mining of coal, which leads to the extension of railroads, establishment of factories and building of towns. Some of the results are stated by the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, in an article from which we quote the following:

> The last decade has seen Harrisburg grow from a village of 1000 inhabitants to a thriving inland city of 12,000, with National banks, handsome business blocks, beautiful churches and paved streets. Herrin, laid out but 12 years ago, is today a town of more than 10,000, and is still growing at a rate hard to conceive. Marion has sprung from 1200 to 12,000 within the same time, while Johnston City, once but a prairie site and that but a half dozen years ago, is a thriving little place of 6000, with its modern conveniences and up-to-date structures equal to the pride of many a larger town. Benton, which is the county capital of Franklin, and once ruled the country round with the majesty of 1000 residents, is now a busy place of 8000, with the end not yet.

It is shown also that in the group of counties where this transformation is going on the farmers, supplied with markets at their doors, are becoming wealthy; road construction is in rapid progress, and the railroads are competing for the growing business by the construction of new lines.

The outlook for development of coal in general quantities throughout the Pacific States, it must be admitted, has not been favorable; yet in localities it is promising, and the general search yet may yield very important results. Observe that in Southern Illinois, which has been settled one hundred years and more, what they are but just now beginning to find and to develop.

PORTLAND DAY AT SEATTLE.

The several thousand people who have gone to Seattle to help celebrate Portland day ought to have a good time, for they have bravely done their duty in a noble cause. Perhaps it would be nearer the truth to say they have done their duty in two or three causes. The first is to show Seattle how little Portland envies the metropolis of the Sound. Hustle is not an evil unless it takes the form of brutal disregard for decency and comfort. The more energy we expend the better, if only it is spent for proper purposes. If Seattle shoots some of its energy into the air without hitting any mark in particular, that also may teach Portland a useful lesson. It is often an excellent thing to learn what not to do.

The second cause which our Portland excursionists have is that of spreading abroad to a wondering world the glory and greatness of Portland. Each individual of them wears, or at least ought to wear, one of those prophetic "Portland, 500,000, 1912," badges which proclaim so modestly what our ambition is. It is a very reasonable ambition and nobody can accuse the excursionists of vanity in shouting it far and wide. If every city had its dues, Portland would contain a population of half a million at this minute, or something not far from that figure. To reach the mark in 1912 will merely be doing rather belatedly a plain duty. If the city compasses the specified half million it will merit no particular credit any more than a man does who pays his debts; but if it fails the penalty will be little short of disgrace. There is some excuse for failing in a difficult task, but not when soil, climate and physical geography have conspired to make everything easy.

A third reason of the visit is to signify Portland's support of the exposition. Seattle did not turn out in this style to attend the Lewis and Clark Exposition in Portland, but its horizon has lifted since that time and it sees a wider outlook of co-operative usefulness in the Pacific Northwest. The A-Y-P Exposition is serving the purposes of this Northwest region, and Portland has contributed to its success with generous spirit.

ANOTHER WORD ABOUT THE WATER RATE.

When a house, with a meter, is able by stinting its use of water, to cut down its payment to 25 cents a month, at present rates, the result shows that the house is not paying enough. The water system cannot be supported on this basis, and now in fact is running behind. Twenty-five cents a month is but three dollars a year, and it costs eleven—nearly twelve—dollars to put in the meter. Thus the city will not get back the cost of the meter alone for about four years; by which time in many cases another meter will be necessary. Besides, there is the cost of inspectors and clerical work. Put the common householder, as heretofore, on a flat rate of 75 cents a month and raise the meter rate to all other users. Then there will be revenue for support of the system, and for necessary extensions and repairs, to which all users, large and small, should contribute.

Water will be abundant in the ordinary household at 75 cents a month; pinched to 25 cents a month, it will neither be good for the household nor fair to the city. No house should pay less than 75 cents a month, which is but two and one-half cents a day. Cost of mains, of general superintendence and repairs is so great that a less rate will be a loss to the city. The meter rate should, of course, be advanced to the larger users. But don't let it be imagined that, since single householders, by scanting their use of water, are able to cut the charge, at the present meter rate, to 25 cents a month, therefore meters should be placed everywhere, with no increase of the rate. The meters cost too much and the inspection and accounting too much, to permit any kind of economy in the system.

THE PROPER TARIFF SYSTEM.

"A subscriber to The Oregonian these many years" desires to be told what it wants in the matter of the tariff. It wants a tariff for revenue, not for protection. In this arrangement there would be, of course, some incidental protection. But revenue should be the main purpose. Hence there should be a duty on all things of common and general use, as tea and sugar and coffee; and duties on luxuries of every kind as high as can be enforced without stoppage of importations. Moderate duties on articles of general consumption, and highest duties on luxuries, of every description. Out of a tariff of this kind, easily written, it would be easy to get an income of $500,000,000 a year; which would yield nothing to protected monopolists, yet would meet all the wants of the Government.

The true idea of the tariff is to impose no duty whatever for protection, but to tax all imports,—the commodities of common consumption moderately, from which great revenue will ensue, and articles of luxury at highest rate they will bear without prohibition of trade. This would be tariff reform. There is no other rational system. But it will be a long time till we shall reach it. Too many "have their hook in the pork barrel"

UNEASINESS AT TACOMA.

The Tacoma Ledger and the Tacoma Tribune each devoted a large amount of editorial space in their last Sunday issues to dissertations on the alleged shortcomings of Portland as a seaport. It required nearly two columns in the Tribune to portray all of the handicaps and disabilities which Tacoma has charged up against Portland. The Tribune simply proved to its own complete satisfaction that Portland could not induce any one but an insane shipowner to send his ship to this port. Having thus deprived this city of facilities for shipping wheat that is hauled down the Columbia to Portland over the only water-level route to tide water, the Tribune decides that "the movement of ships, like all the movements of trade and nature, seek the line of least resistance, and that line, in this affair, leads to Tacoma."

On one point, however, the Tribune failed to enlighten us. We should like to have the Tacoma view as to why in the past fiscal year Portland shipped by water 10,280,896 bushels of wheat, while the combined shipments of all Puget Sound ports were but 6,705,836 bushels. We should also like to have the Tribune explain why nearly 1,000,000 bushels of this wheat was hauled through Tacoma to Portland. Theories are very pretty things to play with, but in discussing a problem like wheat exporting it is just as well to take notice of a few facts which have direct bearing on the subject. The Ledger is not quite so unreasonable as the Tribune in its illusions regarding Portland, but it is giving undue prominence to the labor differential, which at the present time is admittedly favorable to Tacoma. This labor handicap, however, is a temporary affair. Portland has spent several millions in placing this port on an even basis with Puget Sound, so far as ocean freights are concerned, and Portland exporters could, if they so desired, charter 1,000,000 tons of shipping to come to Portland at exactly the rate that is demanded from Puget Sound.

Having made this enormous expenditure in order to remove a physical disability, it would be folly to permit inefficient labor to nullify the advantages thus gained. There is no logical reason why labor should be higher at Portland than at Puget Sound, and there is even less reason why Portland dock labor should be less efficient than that at Tacoma. The Ledger and the Tribune may rest assured that by the time the wheat begins to move freely, there will be no differential in wages in favor of Tacoma, and the grainhandlers in this city will be doing as good work as those at Puget Sound. Portland is a big city, with interests to protect, and they will be protected.

The Ledger is unduly elated because the Washington and Idaho Farmers' Union has located an office in Tacoma, instead of in Portland. This also will be a temporary move, for Portland is the headquarters of the grain trade of the Pacific Northwest, and has more than twice as many grain firms as are doing business in Tacoma and Seattle combined, and more independent dock space than can be found in any other port in the Pacific Northwest. The Farmers' Union was organized for the purpose of securing better prices for grain and other products, and to accomplish that purpose, will be obliged to sell the most of its product in this city. The difficulties already overcome by Portland in establishing its prestige as a seaport were so much greater than any now presending themselves that not even the most vigorous "knocking" of the Tacoma papers is at all disturbing.

THEY DON'T WANT THAT LAND.

Mr. George W. Dixon is entirely right in the opinion, published in his letter yesterday, that our Henry George apostles or disciples, the single taxers, who call themselves the landless poor, will not rush off into any of the new districts where land is offered practically free, and settle down and work in solitude and contentment, as others did aforetime, to establish themselves and their families. No, indeed! They wish to seize the fruits of the labor and privation and waiting and life-long effort and industry of others—by throwing all taxes on land values and making the land obtained by the pioneers, through their early efforts and life-long constancy—valueless to them. Here, in the new aspect, are the modern Huns and Vandals. Some think of them as parasites. But their ambition is higher. They wish to destroy the idea and the fact of private ownership in land and homes.

Still, it is asked, now and again, why don't these people rush off and get the new lands, establish themselves and their families, work and wait and build up, and lay the foundation for the next generations, as earnest men and women these three centuries in America have done? The answer is not far to seek. These people don't want to work, are unwilling to work, as others have done aforetime. They think it easier, and, therefore, preferable, to prey on society and rob others—covering their operations with assertions of justice and forms of law. Never will you find these, or any of them, willing to go into the new country, still open for settlement, take up the life that our pioneers accepted, live in present conditions and work for future independence. Land in the new country, thrown open to all comers, doesn't interest them. They want land in Portland, Seattle, Spokane and San Francisco; or, what comes to the same thing, they want to tax it for their own support, and to deprive the owners of the value of it.

Perhaps they will tell you that if they should go out and get this land and improve and work it up and make it valuable, they would presently be denounced in their turn as monopolists and oppressors of the landless poor. So they prefer to stop right now, and turn robbers right here. Besides, by this wise policy, they will escape all labor and miss all the hope (weak and foolish), and all the disappointment. No; you will not find them going in search of the new land.

REFORMING THE LAW.

People who think justice is of more consequence than legal quibbles will be interested in the conference on the criminal law which has been held lately at the Northwestern University in Illinois. The conference was called by the faculty to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the law department of that flourishing Methodist institution. The grave professors took into their heads the unfashionable, if not erratic, notion that it would be a good plan to do a piece of useful work in commemoration of the close of their first half century instead of indulging in the compliments and the more or less mushy oratory which flow so abundantly on similar occasions elsewhere. So they called together as many wise and great of the earth as they could attract. Some 150 dignitaries obeyed the summons. Some of them bore credentials from the Governors of their states. Some came on their own hook. Which were the more helpful in the conference, the official or non-official members, the record sayeth not.

All sorts of people were present at the conference, representing all manner of ideas. Of course, if our criminal law is ever to be made better it must be through the adoption of somebody's ideas. Mere stupid precedent must be abandoned. It will not do to keep following each other's noses. To change things for the better some thought must be devoted to the subject, and the more varieties of thought there are to choose from the more likely we shall be to obtain something worth while from the stirring up. Hence it was not a bad plan to have psychologists, sociologists and criminologists at the conference as well as lawyers and judges. Lawyers with the help of judges have gotten us into our present unenviable condition of criminal procedure. Whether of their own accord they could or would ever get us out again is a question which it is perhaps wiser to avoid. Probably time and temper will be saved by calling in the aid of other professions. The conference at Northwestern University gave a sort of solidity and permanence to their work by forming the American Institute of Criminal Law, a sapient body which will make a business of studying problems relating to the "detection, punishment and prevention of crime," while it will also promote remedial legislation.

Various committees have been appointed to take up one phase after another of the very broad subjects which the institute hopes to deal with. For example, there is a committee to look into the matter of the prompt selection of jurors. This committee in the wealth of its optimism seems to believe that it is possible not only to stop the waste of weeks and months every time a jury has to be chosen to try a criminal of social or financial importance, but that it is also possible to select "impartial and intelligent jurymen." In our quest for impartiality we have all but eliminated intelligence from the jury-room. The absurd habit of permitting no one who reads the newspapers to serve on a jury, with other little devices for excluding every man of normal intelligence, has gone far toward making a mockery of the jury system. If it still grinds out justice it is because of some inherent excellencies in the mill, and not by connivance of the lawyers.

Another committee of this admirable institute will take in hand the whole subject of appeals, reversals and new trials. As matters now stand in this country, there is scarcely such a thing as bringing a lawsuit to an end for good and all. It has more lives than the traditional cat. If you kill a snake in the early morning, no wise person expects its tail to die before sundown, but when that time comes it does die and there is an end of it, but the American lawsuit never dies. It comes as near being immortal as anything in the universe. Or if not immortal, it fully realizes the Pythagorean idea of repeated births. It is like the evil geni in the Arabian Nights. Kill it in one form and it immediately comes to life in another. This is all very well for people who have plenty of money, but for the impecunious man seeking justice it would be an invention of vast beneyolence to find some way to make a lawsuit done when 'tis done. This everlasting process of reincarnation is discouraging to poor suitors. Of course it is impossible even to enumerate here all the sixteen committees which the institute has appointed and which will be at work during the coming year on special problems of wide interest; but the committee on expert testimony is too important to pass without notice. Its aim will be to abolish all expert testimony except what shall be given by specialists appointed by the court. This will do away with the unblushing exhibition of savants who are willing to sell their consciences to the highest bidder and who prostitute their skill and knowledge for any purpose whatever as long as the base act is well remunerated.

By collaboration among the librarians of the Pacific Northwest, including those of state and public libraries of Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, an attempt toward a catalogue of books and pamphlets relating to the history of the Pacific Northwest has been made. The work is done under the superintendence of the Librarian of the University of Washington. It does not profess to be exhaustive or complete. It is called, indeed, a "Check List"—that is, an attempt or essay toward a collection of titles, with reproduction of title pages. But it is very full. We miss a few titles, but only a few. Here is the completest bibliography of the history of the Northwest that we ever have seen. Most of the books and pamphlets referred to are scarce; many now unobtainable. As a guide to research into the history of the Oregon Country, this list is invaluable.

Umatilla Indians are rounding up a big band of horses for shipment to Montana. A generation ago there was not much on the Umatilla reservation to be rounded up except horses and Indians, but in the change that has taken place it is somewhat surprising to learn that there are enough ponies left to demand the services of 100 Indian cowboys for the round-up. The Indian cayuse is one of the hardiest members of the horse family, and for his weight is hard to beat for most any kind of work. His value, however, is not sufficiently great to permit $100 per acre wheat land being used exclusively for grazing purposes, and the Indian pony is disappearing because the land from which his sustenance is gained is more valuable for other uses.

Representative McCall, of Massachusetts, opposed change of the Constitution, in the matter of direct taxation. He urged "the unwisdom of inviting the poorer and smaller states to band together to pillage the larger and richer states, echoing the fears which led the constitutional convention to forbid the levying of direct taxes except in proportion to population." This is a forecast of the opposition, in "the larger and richer states," to the proposed constitutional amendment, to allow an income tax.

The new Shah had a violent fit of weeping when he was torn from his mother to assume his part in the great political drama that is now playing in Persia, with the world for an audience. The juvenile Shah is perhaps a better life insurance risk than some of the other new rulers that have been thrown into prominence by recent upheavals in various parts of the world, but the unsettled state of affairs in Persia renders his position somewhat uncertain, and he probably had the "cry" due him.

In the opinion of "Old Canby," in that breezy Western play "Arizona," it did not make much difference what a man's name was before he left the States, or afterwards. What the West really wanted to know was, would he "stand the gaff?" Perhaps, after all, it will not make much difference whether the steamers are named Beaver and Bear, or Pansy and Peony, but what the traveling public is really interested in is, will they prove fast, clean and comfortable?

Lettercarriers are accounted by the great body of citizens who receive mail from their hands, as the most welcome of public servants and among the most faithful. They ought to receive generous support for their dramatic entertainment in Baker Theater Thursday and Friday, the proceeds of which will accrue to the local association of lettercarriers and will partly defray the expenses of six delegates to the National convention in St. Paul next month.

Two men were killed and eight others injured while watching a baseball game near Lead, S. D., on Sunday. It is probable that had the victims been holding a prayer meeting on the identical spot on which they were killed, the lightning would not have deviated from its course. Sunday baseball is not popular with some people, however, and seekers for signs of divine wrath will find them in this tragedy.

Whisky caused Finch to slay Fisher. Today the Oregon Supreme Court will pass on the question whether Finch shall be hanged. Of course, the court can do nothing with the whisky.

Brackett conceals. It is obvious he doesn't tell all he knows. He doesn't care to tell who shot him, and if he doesn't care, who does or who should?

They have a new Shah, or Pshaw, in Persia—no matter how they spell it. What's the good of a Shah, or Pshaw, anyhow?

Those militia boys should still be patriotic; it wasn't very hot marching.

REGISTRATION GROWING LESS

Four Thousand Landseekers Make Application at Spokane.

SPOKANE, Wash., July 19.—It is apparent today that the greatest rush for reservation lands is over. The applications here today were not above 4000, and it is estimated about the same number applied at Coeur d'Alene. The figures at Missoula and Kalispell are somewhat lower.

Incoming trains are apparently as crowded as ever, and the falling off in applications is believed to be due to the fact that a majority of the applications the first three days were those of Spokane people or the immediate vicinity of Spokane.

Railroad officials report that their trains from the East will be crowded for several days to come.

MISSOULA, Mont., July 19.—The total registration in Missoula today for lands in the Flathead reservation was 2363. This was the largest figure reported on any day, since the first day of registration.

All the notary offices were closed Sunday and the crowds that arrived then were forced to wait over until today. The grand total of registrations to date, as nearly as can be ascertained is 13,863.

TROLLEY SYSTEM EXTENDED

Construction Begins on Moss Avenue Loop at Eugene.

EUGENE, Or., July 19.—(Special.)—Actual construction work on the Moss-avenue extension of the Portland, Eugene & Eastern began this morning and work will be pushed until the loop connecting East Thirteenth street with the cemetery line, giving Fairmount a through car service, is completed, which will be within 90 days.

Soon after work on the extension began the first of the two new trailers arrived at the Southern Pacific depot. The other trailer will be here within a few weeks, and the car that was loaned to Albany will be returned to Eugene within ten days.

Manager Lambrith announced this evening that as soon as the extension is completed the company will give a 20-minute service to Springfield, and a 15 or 20-minute service to the University and on the new loop. The new cars wil be of the latest model and will be thoroughly appreciated by the public here, which often, especially on Sundays, crowds the present facilities to the limit.

HOPE FOR LUMBERMEN YET

Beckman Believes Taft Will Not Insist on Reduction.

SEATTLE, July 19.—"I do not believe for a minute that President Taft will insist on any further reduction or that any changes will be made in the Senate lumber schedule," said Victor H. Beckman, secretary of the Pacific Coast Lumber Manufacturers' Association, in an interview tonight. Mr. Beckman was in Washington, D. C., while the fight over the lumber schedules was in progress, and has handled the controversy in the Northwest from start to finish.

"The lumber schedules were exhaustively discussed," said Mr. Beckman. "Congress has a better understanding of what the lumber industry needs than has President Taft. I don't believe that he will urge a reduction of the Senate lumber schedule when the situation is explained to him. The lumbermen have already consented to a reduction of the old Dingley tariff and it is well understood at Washington that the industry cannot well stand any further reduction and prosper."

B. D. PAINE IS LAID TO REST

Funeral of Eugene Citizen Is Largely Attended.

EUGENE, Or., July 19.—(Special.)—Hundreds of friends followed the remains of the well-known and highly respected Eugene citizen, Bernard D. Paine, to the Masonic Cemetery at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

B. D. Paine, who had been a resident of Lane County for 27 years, died at his home here Sunday morning, after a lingering illness of several months. He was born in Paine's Hollow, Herkimer County, New York, April 27, 1839. He joined the Seventh Artillery at the breaking out of the Civil War and during the latter part of the conflict received promotion for his gallant services.

He was interested for years in the sporting goods business in Eugene, from which he retired two years ago. He was a marksman of recognized ability and was known to hundreds of hunters of Western Oregon. His wife and two brothers, Dr. D. A. Paine, of Eugene, and T. M. Paine, of Glencoe, Minn., survive him.

GLIDDENITES AHEAD OF TIME

Strike Good Roads in Southern Minnesota and Hurry Along.

MANKATO, Minn., July 19.—Traversing excellent roads from Minneapolis to Mankato, 132 miles, the Glidden tourists arrived here today two hours ahead of their scheduled time.

The pathfinder car arrived at 12:20 P. M., and the pacemaker at 1:45 P. M. The tourists will leave at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning for Fort Dodge, Ia.

Big Excursion Sees Ball Game.

NEWPORT, Or., July 19.—(Special.)—Newport enjoyed especially fine weather yesterday, which added greatly to the pleasure of 350 people who came on an excursion to witness the Albany-Corvallis baseball game which was played on the local field. Corvallis won with a score of 7 to 3, many of her men having been trained at O. A. C. The owner of the Newport field will make an effort to have a game scheduled for each Sunday, so that the fans may come over and watch a game in a sea breeze with no fear of sunstroke.

Smith Wins Match.

STEVENSON, Wash., July 19.—(Special.)—In a wrestling match here Saturday night, between "Strangler" Smith, of Portland, and Ed Davis, of this place, Smith won by getting the first and third falls. The first fall required 45 minutes and 15 seconds. In the second, Davis succeeded in getting his favorite toe hold, and landed his man in 45 seconds. The third was a hard-fought battle, Davis breaking two of the strangler's favorite holds, but Smith got his man to the mat in 28 minutes. The steamer Simon brought in an excursion from up the river, and a big crowd was in attendance.

$20,000 Offered for Kling.

NEW YORK, July 19.—President Ebbetts, of the Brooklyn National League Club, has made the Chicago Club an offer of $20,000 for Catcher Johnny Kling, who has refused to play with Chicago this year. Ebbetts wants Kling to manage the Brooklyn club.

Teamsters' Union Split.

NEW YORK, July 19.—Four thousand men, according to reports in labor circles here, have seceded from the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and formed an organization which they call the Independent International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

THE WATER QPESTION.

Meters and Flat Rate and Necessity of Revenue.

PORTLAND, July 17.—(To the Editor.)—In today's issue of The Oregonian you ask, editorially, what we water users who are in favor of the meter system would have to say if meters were placed in all houses and the rates were doubled. We would say that if it were necessary to double the rates in order to meet the cost of the meter system, we would cheerfully agree to the raise, feeling that, however high the rate, we were paying for something we were actually getting, whereas, under the flat rate system thousands of us pay for water we never receive. This has been incontrovertibly proven since the meter system has been introduced. All over the city are people who heretofore have been paying $1 per month for water, but who now, with a meter, are paying only 25 or 30 cents per month, and yet are using water as unstintedly as ever. If corroboration of this assertion is desired, I can furnish it, as can also the account books at the water office. Cannot these people well afford to have the rate doubled, or even trebled? And can you blame us for being opposed to a flat rate of "75 cents or $1," as you suggest in yesterday's issue? Why should we be compelled to help pay the water bills of business men, manufacturers, etc., who are making money off the water they use? Putting meters in their places of business would not alter the fact that we would be paying, under compulsion, for part of the water they use. The proposition is unjust, and it is things of this sort that make friends for the referendum.

C. B. MORGAN.

Water rates are in process of redajustment. Those who have been getting water for twenty-five to thirty cents a month have been getting it at too low a rate. The water supply cannot be maintained on this system. Raise the water rates, therefore, and the users of large quantities will be obliged to pay for what they use. The meter rate that has cut down the payment for the ordinary household to twenty or thirty cents is too low. Make a flat rate of seventy-five cents, and raise the meter rates, so that users of large quantities shall pay what they ought. This will support the system and provide a surplus or reserve for the necessary extensions in a growing city. Every user of water must pay more than the bare cost of supply for himself. There's a socialistic element in this business, as in the postoffice, the public schools and every business under governmental direction. It doesn't follow, however, that it should be extended to supply of clothes, shoes and bread.

ELIMINATION OF RUDENESS.

Senator Jeff Davis Makes Progress in the Amenities.

Speaking of the noticeable improvement of temper in Senator Davis of Arkansas, and his general progress in the amenities of political and official life in Washington, the Louisville Courier-Journal says:

> Verily, there is nothing like a few seasons in Washington to "soften the rude and calm the boisterous minds." A session or two in the somnolent old Senate draws all the fire and rancor from the most raucous-voiced trust-buster who ever took an oratorical whack at the good eye of the octopus, or rammed a metaphorical pitchfork into the vitals of the opposition. The statesman who "goes to the National Capital to eat 'em alive" usually finds out rather early in the game that he has undertaken a contract too large for his appetite and digestion. After a few fiery speeches for home consumption, he settles down to a period of silence and reflection, and in time becomes senatorially civilized and thoroughly tame.
>
> It will be a surprise, no doubt, to some of Senator Davis' constituents that he takes so much pains to avoid being considered rude to a President of the opposition party. From his past record, they might reasonably infer that he would reject a White House invitation with scorn; that he would shake his fist at the President's myrmidons and satellites in the familiar style in which he is wont to menace the rival candidate in Arkansas; that he would refuse to darken the White House door, or, for any consideration, be caught in the company of a Republican President. The times have changed, and Senator Davis has changed with them. Whether the change is for the better or worse is a matter that will have to be settled between the Senator and his constituents.

"POLITICIANS! POLITICIANS!"

But Let Us Consider, and Clear Our Minds of Cant.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

Of all the cant that was ever canted the most futile cant is that politicians are beings different from ourselves, inflicted upon us from without, either by the malice of the devil, or as a punishment for our sins, or as a mysterious dispensation of a Divine Providence whose ways are beyond human comprehension. They are nothing of the sort, and it is mere cant to assume that they are.

Let us not forget, merely because his achievements have caused us almost to deify him, that in his own time Abraham Lincoln was described by two-thirds of his countrymen as "a mere politician"—was believed by hundreds of thousands when he entered the White House to be a "cheap," "vulgar," "tricky" or "fanatical" politician. No one thought of him as a haloed martyr and to no one, not even to his nearest friends, did he seem a hero then.

But in the providence of God he saved the Union from disruption. He brought it to pass that its government of the people, for the people and by the people did not perish from the earth. He sent his country forward with the stain of human slavery washed from its banner, but from that banner no star erased! And he was just a politician.

To shout "Politicians! Politicians!! Politicians!!!" when things are not going to suit us is not wisdom. It is not sagacity or intelligence. It is not even explanation.

Federal and City Liquor Licenses.

ELMA, Wash., July 19.—(To the Editor.)—Will you kindly answer the following question: A resident of Elma applies to the Federal Government for a wholesale liquor license. It is granted and he sends to Portland for so many packages of liquor. Can the town of Elma step in and say you cannot sell said packages without a town of Elma license? Would that not conflict with Federal or interstate laws?

DAVID BURRIE.

Any incorporated town or city, when so authorized by the State Legislature, may make and enforce regulations governing the sale of intoxicating liquors. A municipal tax does not conflict with the Government excise tax. The Federal Government and the city impose a separate tax for the privilege of selling liquors. If you call this tax a license, the matter will clear itself in your mind.

Furthermore, towns and cities under their police powers, have the right to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors. They may forbid it entirely, whether the liquors are in original packages or not. Revenue derived by a city from liquor licenses is incidental. In the case of the Federal Government, the revenue is demanded for support of the Government. It does not bother itself with police regulations except on Federal property and Indian reservations.

Our Level-Headed Senator.

Albany Democrat.

Certainly Senator Bourne has shown a level head in having delivered only two speeches in six years. This ought to make him popular.

Life's Sunny Side

The old man turned from his desk as his son-in-law entered the office.

"Well, what is it now?" he asked.

"I—er—have been thinking," answered the new member of the family, "that you ought to give me a pension."

"A pension!" exclaimed the old man. "What in thunder do you mean, sir?"

"Well, it's like this," explained the other. "Ever since I did your daughter the honor to marry her I have been dependent on you for support, and I want to be independent. See?"—Chicago News.

* * *

He—I would kiss you if we were not in a canoe.

She—Sir! I wish to be taken ashore instantly.—Judge.

* * *

"Where do all you Americans live?" inquired the European.

"About 4,000,000 of us live in New York," and the rest of us live in caves."—Kansas City Star.

* * *

With much reluctance King George III had decided to let his American colonies go.

"Mark my words, though," he said, "they'll be governed some day by a monarch ten times as absolute and despotic as I am!"

If any doubt exists that his Britannic majesty had the spirit of prophecy upon him, look at Mr. Adrich.—Chicago Tribune.

* * *

A mother, father and small child were eating supper, when the child, who had been thinking real hard, looked up and said, "Mamma, you was born in Maine, papa was born in Idaho and I was born in Chicago; ain't it funny how we all got together?"—The Delineator.

* * *

There is no telling what quaint turns wifely pride and devotion may take. Sir Melville Beachcroft, while waiting in a tenement house for the occupant of the first floor to admit him, chanced to overhear two women conversing on the stairs.

One remarked that her husband always wore a clean shirt every Sunday morning.

"Well, now," responded the other, "I never cares about Sundays, but I allays do see that 'e 'as a clean shirt Saturday afternoons, 'cos that's the time 'e is generally drinking, and when 'e does take 'is cost off to fight I do like to know 'e looks nice and clean."—London Tatler.

* * *

"Well, Bobby," said the minister who was making a duty call, "what do you intend to be when you grow up?"

"An orphan," promptly replied Bobby, who was still suffering from a dose of parental discipline.—Chicago Journal.

* * *

"Queer things happen at fires," said Lewis K. Jordan, of Cleveland, O., at the Cochran in telling this story.

"The other day the lace curtains caught on fire in an East Side home, and there was some panic while the fire lasted, you bet. Everybody called for the imported cook out in the kitchen to hustle in with a dishpan or two of water. But she didn't arrive on the scene until somebody had pulled down the curtains and trampled out the flames.

"'Why didn't you hurry?' they asked her reproachfully.

"'Hurry,' she repeated. 'Wasn't I hurryin' as fast as I could? I had hot water in the dishpan when you hollered at me and I had to throw out that and get some cold water. You didn't want me to come in and throw hot water on the fire and make it worse, did you?'"—Washington (D. C.) Herald.

* * *

"I know I am looking like a fright tonight," said the woman. The man studied her dress, her hair, her complexion closely.

"I don't see anything the matter with you," he said. "So far as I can see you are looking as well as usual."

"But I am not," she insisted. "There is something wrong and that head waiter saw at a glance what it is. If I had been up to the mark he wouldn't have put us away over here in this out-of-the-way corner. He would have given us a table right under the chandelier in the middle of the room. All the best-dressed people are always seated in the most conspicuous places, so as to make the restaurant look attractive. I am glad to say that that is where I usually sit. The plain people are ranged along the sides of the room, just like we are tonight."—New York Times.

* * *

It was the boss' birthday. The office boy knew it, because he had heard the boss' wife say so. The office boy worshiped the boss and had bought him a birthday present. Often he had heard the boss say that the only presents he liked were cigars, providing they were ten-cent cigars, and he was worried for fear the boss might not like his present.

The boss came in and threw open his desk. Lying there he saw a small parcel. He opened it and found that it contained a cigar. He looked at it closely. It was a nickel cigar.

"Huh," said the boss disgustedly. Then he noticed that there was writing on the paper. He read:

"Happy birthday. I dident buy a ten-center cause I only had a nickel."

The boss bit the end off the cigar, reached in his pocket and drew out a match and lighted the weed. He puffed critically a minute.

"I didn't know they made such good cigars for a nickel," he said.—Hutchinson (Kan.) Gazette.

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"Eggs for invalids," read a sign at a certain shop.

"What is there unusual about those eggs?" asked a curious observer.

"Why, them eggs is an absolute novelty," said the dealer, briskly, adding in awed tones: "Them eggs is fresh."—Judy.

Boy Uses Cow as Steed.

Shamokin, Pa., Dispatch.

Following a wild ride on a cow at Seven Points, the frightened animal was about to gore Fay Ream, 10 years old, when his father rescued him.

Fay was sent out to watch the cows, and, tiring of the job, decided to have some sport. Fay nimbly sprang onto the cow's back and goaded "bossy" to top speed.

In turning a sharp corner the boy lost his balance and fell, striking his knee on a sharp stone, inflicting a deep gash. Unable to move, he lay helpless, when the cow turned and attacked him.

At this juncture the boy's father appeared and chased the cow away.

Another Hughes Example.

Springfield (Mass.) Union.

Among the numerous provisions of the New York Legislature vetoed by Governor Hughes was an appropriation of $15,000 to enable the Governor, his staff and a committee of the Legislature to visit the Seattle exposition at public expense. Nevertheless, the Governor has accepted an invitation to attend the exposition on New York day, August 2, and will pay his own expenses during the trip. There is a consistency in this manner of carrying out a policy of public economy which may well serve as an example to public officials fond of junketing at the people's expense.

Outrageous.

Cottage Grove Leader.

Child-stealing is bad enough, but what must be thought of the conscienceless scoundrel who takes a dozen good hens?