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PORTLAND, MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1910.

OREGON'S CENTURY GROWTH. Just 100 years ago this Spring, the Oregon country felt the tread of the first Americans bent on occupation and settlement. Numerous American fur traders had touched the shores of the present-day Oregon and Washin the twenty years preceding. Lewis and Clark, five years before, had spent the Winter at Clatsop, as explorers. In 1792, Captain Gray, a Boston navigator, had discovered and entered the Columbia River. came Captain Nathan Winship in 1810 in the "Albatross" to found a settlement and trade with the Indians. But flood of the Columbia River swept over the settlement at Oak Point, Indians were bostile and competition of John Jacob Astor's fur enterprise was approaching, so that Captain Winship in a few weeks abandoned the effort. Early next year the Astor sea party arrived in the ship Tonquin and founded Astoria. After them came other Americans and the opening of the Oregon trail.

So that a century retrospect is full of history for this now transformed region. Truly great things have been achieved in the century. The changes have been as rapid, perhaps more so than anywhere on the American con linent in a like period. Progress has been all the more remarkable when one remembers that nearly all of it is the product of the last 60-year period. A population of 2,000,000 has made a home of the great basin of the Columbia River and has almost doubled in ten years. Bank deposits have grown to \$250,000,000. A tury ago the whole wealth of the land was thought to consist in furs, nor was it supposed the country could ever yield much else. Now, the furs are as nothing and the wealth of soil, streams, minerals and forest far exceeds the most golden dreams, and has just fairly begun.

It may profit thus to look back over the beginnings and may aid the Imagination to compass somewhat the century ahead. Clash of opinions and strife of interests will cloud the sunshine in the future as they have done in the past, but retrospect will help to bring back beams of cheer just as last week's sunshine dispelled late-Spring fears of the groundhog day.

WHERE IS THE WHEAT?

Secretary Wilson's March report, showing stocks of wheat in farmers' presents some encouraging features, the most prominent of which is utter abandonment of any attempt to justify the department's wild and unreasonable figures on the crop of the three North Pacific states. These well-informed man in the grain trade was unable to locate more than 50,-1000,000 bushels as the crop of the three states, credited Oregon, Washington and Idaho with 66,622,000 bushels, or more than 13,000,000 bushels over the preceding crop. Of this crop (1909) which was alleged to approximate nearly 67,000,000 bushels, the March report shows 12,300,000 bushels in farmers' hands. Extreme estimates place the amount in warehouses, mills and at terminals at 5,000,000 bushels, and for seed and me consumption for the entire year 15,000,000 bushels will be required. There have been shipped by water (flour included) 19,659,000 bushels, and the Eastern shipments by rail will swell this amount to about 22,500,000 There was no carry-over from the short crop of the preceding year.

Thus, making allowance for the shipments to March 1st, for the entire year's requirements for seed and home consumption, and for the amount in first and second hands, we can account for a total of 54,800,000 bushels out of a crop which the Government assures us reached a total of 66,622,000 bushels. This leaves a total of 11,822,000 bushels which has mysteriously disappeared since the appearance of the December report. As further proof of the utter worthlessness and unreliability of the Government figures on the wheat crop, a comparison between the March figures a year ago and those which have just appeared is interesting. The total output of the 1908 crop, as reported by Secretary Wilson, was 53,207,000 hushels, or more than 13,415,000 less than the 1909 crop estimate of the same effect. authority.

Out of that Pacific Northwest crop of 13,415,000 bushels less than that of 1909, the Government on March 1 last year reported stocks in farmers' March this year, although shipments to all ponts were but 1,900,000 bushels less than they were for the same period this season, and seed and home consumption requirements were the In other, words, with shipments to date, seed and home consumption requirements and public stocks practically the same as last season, the Government finds remaining in farmers' hands from a 67,000,-000-bushel crop, but 3,000,000 bushels more than were shown a year ago from a 52,000,000-bushel crop.

It is reported that M. J. Buckley, general superintendent of the Harriman lines in the Pacific Northwest, will leave Portland to accept a similar position with the Union Pacific. Considering the masterly skill with which Mr. Buckley and his able assistants in the operating department of the O. R. & N. kept an Immense passenger and mail traffic moving over surprising that there is a demand for his services on the big road. Enlargement of the Harriman system by the ships at the foot of the falls, it is in that it is not thought worth while to possum.

Tillamook roads and increasing demands for efficiency in operation would seem, however, to make it highly desirable that Mr. Buckley remain where he has made his reputation as an operating man. General Manager O'Brien and General Superintendent Buckley have performed some excellent "team work" on the & N. property with which they have long been associated, and they are both exceptionally well qualified for continuing the work on the more extensive scale into which it is now widening.

THE LAWYERS' FEAST.

Multnomah lawyers will give a ban quet next Thursday in honor of Judge George H. Williams and of judges of Supreme Court of the state. will be a commendable trib-to a venerable jurist and It will respected magistrates. It is to be hoped lawyers from all parts of the state will respond to the general evitation. Among the toast subjects are "The Supreme Court," "The Federal Court," "Nisi Prius" and "The County Court," to which members of

the bench will respond Should members of the bar be seeking topics for oratory, The Oregonian could make several humble suggestions, if asked for them. "How Little esting subject, especially on the tongue of some lawyer of experience. Why Do Lawyers Need a New Court-Worse Than Taxpayers?' would be another. "Strife and Proswould enable some gifted speaker to soar away on the flyingmachine wings of eloquence. yers vs. Humble Citizens as Thrifty Law Tinkers" would prepare the way for election of members of the next Legislature. "No Lawyers in the Millennium" would enable a brother to expatlate on the happiness of the far-off peace period

These hints are offered for use simply in case the honored guests should not take up the whole evening. In the event of their adoption a big gallery audience would honor the learned speakers with its presence.

CITY WATER AND TAXES.

If Bull Run water made the actual In the labor-union plan of paying for mains out of general taxation. But Bull Run water obviously does not do this, else lots in Sunnyside would be worth as much money as lots on Washington street.

The occasion for this remark is a letter, printed elsewhere, urging general taxation as a substitute for dis trict assessment for payment of cost of water mains. The writer should know that the big disparities in value of lots in Portland, as in every city, are due to manifest and varied causes. that have small relation to water supply. The highest-priced lots are better provided with city water than many of the cheapest, nor, as a matter of fact, is the city water so necessary to them, since they have their own wells. City water for fire protection might properly be paid for by taxation, but not for general consumption.

City water contributes to land value In the same way that sewers, sidewalks and streets do. Yet nobody has temerity to argue that these improvements should be imposed on tax payers.

The writer of the letter objects to the Seattle district plan because, he says, it "hits the small home-owner That may seem so, but pretty hard." it is worth to his land all it costs, just as are sewers, sidewalks and streets. Truth is, the writer of the letter is like the big suburban speculator; he wishes to get water improvement at somebody else's expense. The speculators in Portland have been doing this many years, and water consumers have been paying in high monthly rates

City water enhances value of lots but does not make the values that appear on the tax assessment rolls Then what justice in taxing land through the Assessor and the Sheriff to build mains? When a district, to be benefited by extension of a main to charged as for a 6-inch main, share and share alike for each lot, it pays very near its just dues, since cost of 5-inch is about the average of pine

AN UNREASONABLE CONTENTION.

Individuals, corporations or comnunities, enjoying special privileges or advantages to which they are not rightfully entitled, become in time so accustomed to these favors that they cease to be regarded as favors and, Instead, are looked upon and demanded as natural rights which should not be withheld or disturbed. It was the special advantages afforded Spokane many years ago by the railroads, when they carved out a jobbing zon-200 miles in diameter, that established a bad precedent that is now plaguing both the rallroads and Spokane. Under the beneficent workings of this inexcusable and indefensible special jobbing rate, Spokane rapidly forged ahead of all competitors. No other city on the Coast could show even approximately so great a peras was shown by Spokane after these discriminatory rates were placed in

The heavlest jobbers in Spokane, far-seeing, level-headed business men by whom the governing conditions in rate-making were well understood and appreciated, fought hard against the hands but 2,000,000 less than in attempt of a few small dealers and real estate boomers to disturb the existing situation three years ago. These big shippers, who, with the aid of the special discriminatory rates of the rallroads, had given Spokane the jobbing prestige it enjoyed, were perfeetly familiar with the fact that they were enjoying rates to which their geographical location did not entitle them. They, of course, suffered with the others when the appeal of Spokane to the Interstate Commerce Commission and the subsequent ruling compelled Spokane to stand on for further economy carried their method. her merits. It is this element that is strongly objecting to the ridiculous at- in sight of the meeting-house on Suntempt of the Spokane City Council to force the Milwaukee and the North Coast Railroad to guarantee terminal rates in exchange for a franchise to enter the city. The demand for terminal rates, which are always based on water competition, is even more unreasonable than that which was making? made on the Interstate Commerce their lines while all other roads to Commission for a still greater disthe Coast were paralyzed, it is not crimination than was afforded by the specially-constructed "jobbing zone." Until Spokane can land ocean-going

building of the Central Oregon and no position to ask for terminal rates as it is the water-carrier alone that makes these rates which the railroad is forced to meet. Spokane is a pros perous city, backed up by a territory of wonderful extent and great resources, but it is not a sea port, and until it can enjoy the transportation that is available only at seaport terminals, it will be impossible for that city to force any railroad company to meet ocean competition at Spekane in stead of at tide-water. Some of the Spokane people are already familiar with this fact. Eventually it will be plain to all of them, and they will nake common cause with Portland for lower rates from the seaboard inland.

RECORD-BREAKING PROSPERITY.

Portland bank clearings for the veek ending last Saturday were the largest on record for the second week in March, exceeding the corresponding week last year by \$2,220,672. Seclearings also reached a new high-water mark, exceeding the same period last year by \$1,393,606, the gain being but \$800,000 less than Portland's. Similar satisfactory evidence of remarkable prosperity shown in real estate transfers and building permits, the March business in both of these important features of industrial growth being far ahead of the Damage Money Should the of the same month in previous years. Victim Get?" would be a very interof the local situation is the large number of permits being issued for new dwellings. In a total of 167 permits with a valuation of \$336,835, is sued last week, there was not a single large business structure.

Thirty-eight of the permits were for repairs. Of the 129 permits for new construction, 102 were for dwellings, nearly all of them being constructed for people who were building for their own use. Statistics of this nature show more conclusively than any others the stability of the growth of this city and preclude any possibility of over-building in the business disricts so long as the permanent population is increasing so rapidly as it is at the present time. There is nothing speculative about a building movement where such a large percentage of the work is in homes for the

growing population. In real estate transfers Portland the Pacific Northwest. Details of the transfers in Seattle are not at hand ater than March 8, but, for the month to that date inclusive, the Seattle transfers showed a valuation of \$461,927, while those of Portland for the same period were \$1,659,482 Meanwhile reports from the cities and country from which Portland draws such a large share of its support bring similar cheerful returns, offerindisputable evidence that this city and its tributary territory are just at present enjoying the greatest prosperity we have ever known

THE PAY-AS-YOU-GO STATION.

The one circumstance about the increased cost of living that is eminently satisfactory is that it gives everybody a chance to air his or her opinions about things in general and some things in particular. The occupation of the evangelist, for example, would be gone, and he be relegated to the superannuated list without delay; or if not old enough to make a legitimate superannuate, he might be compelled to take toll of toll-perhaps even "plow, delve or ply the oar with lusty limb," if it were not for matters contributory to or contingent upor this versatile theme, whereby he could for a fat salary arraign the multiin strong language and fervid tones, for its sins, having first classified and condensed these sins into might be called a nacket as of an indictment, general and specific of the tremendous pace at which the world is traveling, with "pay-as-you-

go" stations all along the line. The "joy ride" is a pay station frequently taking toll of life. It is but the successor, however, of other forms of so-called pleasure riding that might or might not have been so costly The theater is a pay station, but not a new one; the dance hall-whenever was there a time when the dance hall was not? The toll that it takes is certainly not more excessive than it was in the troublous times of John the Baptist.

The human race is going at a rapid pace and paying as it goes. When indeed, did it not set a pace and press forward in it as fast as it could? The way has been lighted all along with whatever luminant the ingenuity of man was able to devise. The rushlight, the pine-knot, the tallow candle, the kerosene lamp, gas, electricity each came in its turn, and the records show that no matter what was used to form the inclination or relieve the necessity of turning night into day, each device cost all that those using it could make shift to pay.

And so all along the line. The necessaries of life were compassed at great cost and infinite pains. More than this cannot now be said of the luxuries which in their turn have become necessaries. The supper table could be lighted now as cheaply as in the times to which we are wont to refer as the "good old days," if we were content to light the table with centage of gain in the jobbing trade a candle. My lady's silken gown is not more costly today than was the dress of linsey-woolsey woven in the hand loom of a past century-with this difference, that the latter took toll from the weary muscles and short-ened span of life of the patient weaver and wearer. The bill for sweets was not large in cash in the family of ve olden time. But the mother held the sugar-bowl in her lap, that she might better ward off predactous fingers The toll at this pay station was exacted in hard necessity to which none

of us would care to return. It costs enormously and out of all proportion to actual values to provide shoes for the present generation n its restless movings up and down. Do we, then, wish to return to the era in which, to save shoe leather. children and even women went barefoot from November until April, and shoes in their hands until they came days? The shoe barons have pay-asyou-go stations all along the from hide to patent leather, of the highest polish and latest cut and finish. But who would, if he could, return to the cheap, barefoot days, or to the days of clumsy village shoe-

The wheaten loaf was at one time especially in the Middle West, so dear that the family of the laboring man could not eat that loaf, except upon rare occasions. Now it is so

make it at home. Still, bread is high, and the bakery is the pay-as-you-go

The man who performs his morning ablutions in a perfumed bathroom, where water, hot and cold, comes at the turn of a faucel, grumbles when he pays water rent and fuel bills, but what a wall would rise upon the air of morning if he had to chop the od, build the fire, draw water from a deep well in the yard, with a stiff windlass, and wash his face in a rusty tin pan on the bench outside the kitchen door, with home-made soap to insure cleanliness? The genial air of the bathroom, the hot water on demand, the delicately-scented soapthese are the items charged at this pay-as-you-go station. And is he not a churl who contests this charge? And so it goes. The way is made easy, but the pay-as-you-go principle is insisted upon at every station. who wants to avoid these charges has one recourse. There are still some locations far from the haunts of men to which the man who protests payment at these stations may retire and ive cheaply.

To people who have lived a number of years near the ocean, it seems almost inconceivable that its dangers could be as lightly regarded as they were by the two Wisconsin men who attempted a landing on Clatsop beach in a small boat with which they had ventured on a journey to the Nehnlem. On rare occasions in the Summer ime, good luck and good seamanship combined might result in an ocean trip of this nature being made without loss of life, but the chances are always against the foolhardy individual who attempts it. According to news reports of the tragedy at Clatsop, it would appear that neither the man who lost his life nor his companion who was saved, possessed the slightest knowledge of the dangers they were tempting when they left the Columbia River in their frail craft. It seems to have been one of those cases where "fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

The Oregonian is in receipt of a letter from Scattle wherein protest is registered against recent Intimations in its columns that a "wide-open" policy is to be followed by the Gill administration. Mayor-elect Gill, it is said, repeatedly notified the public during the campaign that the lawless and disorderly elements need expect no favors or special consideration from him, and that he would create a "restricted" district and keep the saloons closed on Sundays. Yet it is true that the "liberal" element solidsupported Gill, and his record and alliances would appear to justify entirely their confidence that they will not be harshly dealt with. Yet, of course, Gill as Mayor may disappoint He says he will. We shall see. them.

The Shoshone explorers who have discovered the skeleton of a man ten feet tall display true Twentieth Century enterprise in discovering at the same time "an ancient gun weighing between twenty-five and thirty pounds resembling a flint-lock rifle." This discovery has the Cardiff giant so This badly distanced that it ought to make a fortune for the enterprising explor-ers who have found it. Aside from the deep interest that will be shown in the skeleton of a ten-foot giant with a thirty-pound flint-lock, the advertisement of that portion of Idaho will be of great value to the state Localities in which ten-foot men and thirty-pound rifles grow to maturity are not so common as to escape notable comment.

The "star-eyed goddess of reform" has utterly failed to make much headn certain districts in Chicago "Bathhouse John" Coughlin, who has been accused of most of the crimes on the calendar and has seldom taken the trouble to deny any of the charges has been nominated for the tenth consecutive time as a member of the Chicago City Council, and will, of course, be elected. He has served notice on the public that he is not a reformer and further avers that " don't want to have anything to do with those long-haired guys. They are not on the square even with them-When a reformer comes within ten feet of me, I put my hand on my watch."

If that bipedal grouch who wrote the letter to the Indianapolis paper telling a few truths and a variety of the other thing about Portland happens still to be around these parts, let him write again. This weather ought to mellow him some.

Representative Poindexter says that journalistic paragon, Old Cap. Collier's Weekly, "bears no one's rubber stamp." Quite right. Poindexter has even erased from his ineffable person the stamp of the party that elected

Of the nineteen measures so far proposed for vote by the people of next November, Lawgiver U'Ren offers less than one-half. But the season is early, and it's going to be a long Summer.

Speculator Patten hurrled back to America after his painful experience with the Manchester cotton exchange. Those brokers are likely to hear something drop once more from this

The progress of General Superin-

tendent Park from the Union Pacific to the vice-presidency of the Illinois Central will start a movement of coming railroad men." The Oregon Conservation Commission wants \$2500 more to make a topographic survey of its field of work. Now, who is it wants a job

for such modest sum? Some 10,000 people saw Aviator Hamilton fly in Seattle Saturday and paid for it. It would have paid better them to adopt the Portland

San Diego has the best argument in the Panama Exposition dispute in that it has no earthquake scare on tap.

Ninety-two million germs have been found on a dollar bill. thinks of disinfecting before grabbing.

All days are alike to the steam excavator, and Progress in Portland never considers the calendar. The groundhoo must be playing

PINCHOT RIGHTLY SIZED UP. One Eastern View That Properly Covers the Situation.

Brooklyn Eagle, Ind The President of the United States has the satisfaction of realizing that the people of the United States be lieve that Gifford Pinchot erred in attacking him. To be sure, Mr. Pluchot says he did not attack the President but what Mr. Pinchot said amounted to an attack in the opinion of every other man in the United States. Mr. Pinchot charged the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Ballinger, with falsehood and corruption. Mr. Taft appointed Mr. Ballinger and has upheld him against Mr. Pinchot's attack. If that is not attacking Mr. Taft, nothing can be called an attack on him. Mr. Pinchot can make charges as he goes along. He cannot make defini-tions as he goes along. Definitions depend on the understanding of plain people about plain facts and plain

The investigation of Mr. Ballinger, which is nearing its end, proves that the charges Mr. Pinchot brought directly against him and indirectly against the President for sustaining him, are false. The evidence vindicates Mr. Ballinger. It refutes Mr. Pincot. It vindicates Mr. Taft. es so, It can do so, for the Secretary and the President only with the conscquence of condemning Mr. 'Pinchot. Is the latter a liar? By no means. But he is one who suspects, believes and charges evil-doing on others, without proofs and against proofs. He believes what he wishes to believe. dishelieves what he wishes to dishe-Heve. He is constituted that way, Many men are. They are moral fanatles and intellectual defectives. The basis is vanity. There is no

cure for it to that degree. The victims believe they are necessary and indispensable. They convince themselves that not only do those who differ from them err, but that they know they err, and do not hesitate at falsehood to bolster up their error and de fend themselves. The condition is a state of mind. The state of mind dispenses with evidence and is superior to evidence. Examples are many of this sort. When it takes homicidal form, lives are lost, and sheriffs who manage gallows or men who manage trocutions or guillotines are kept busy Three Presidents of the United States owe their deaths to the hands of men of exaggerated egotism. That, howeevr, is a rare form.

The demonstration that Mr. Ballinger and Mr. Wickersham are right and Pinchot was and is wrong and that Presi dent Taft has been just, considerate patient, maligned and unresentful grateful to the American people. is incredible to Mr. Pinchot. He not only does not believe it, but he is positively incapable of believing that anyone else believes it. Nearly everyone knows somebody who has a delusion of that kind about something or other with which he has had to do as much as Mr. Pinchot has had to do Perhaps even the with forestation. best of us have that failing ourselves. We should certainly be charitable toward Mr. Pinchot and not be too sure of ourselves, even while we are gratifled at the vindication of the President, the Secretary of the Interior and the Attorney-General from the aspersions of the sincere and unfortunate Mr. Pinchot.

Puck.

Ransas—Pianolas, Prince Alberts,
Pullmans, Phonographs, Pocketbooks,
and Prosperity.

North Carella North Carolina-Arid plains of Dixie! South Carolina-Shall we never drink

Illinois-Our speakers swore terribly n Danville! Arizona-Hell hath no torridity like

a Yuma noon. Arkansas-A busted trust is better than a trusted trust. Nevada-Whom God hath joined together let Reno put asunder. Iowa-I insurge.

New Mexico-Sabe? California-I see yellow! ...entucky-Idem (the same). oebraska-Me and Jefferson. Colorado Gold et Guggenheim. Wisconsin-Sic temper Cannonis. New York-The race is not to the

Montana-What cannot gold buy? Utah-E polygamous Union. South Dakota-I came, I stayed (six months), I am single! Oklahoma—If you don't find it in our onstitution, it never happened.

Missouri—You will have to elucidate logically, illuminately and exhaust-

Indiana—The six-best-seller is mightter than the Dreadnought. One of Nick Longworth's Stories.

Washington Dispatch to New York World. Here is one "Nick" Longworth is tellsome of his colleagues in House:

An old negro was stopped on the who asked him if he had voted.
"Yas, 'ndeed, I'se voted," replied the Did you get anything for your votel Oh, yas, sah. I got paid foh mah

"What did you get?"
"Well, suh, it was laik this. De Republicans come to me and dey says dey gives me \$11 if me and mah three boys vote de Republican ticket. an' I took de money; and de Democrats came to me and dey says dey give me \$7 feb meh vote and meh hous! votes and meh hous!

an' I took de money."
"You took money from both sides,
Then which ticket did you vote?" "Oh, I voted de Democratic ticket."
"Why so? The Republicans gave you

\$7 foh mah vote and mah boys' votes,

"I voted fo' de Democrats foh jes' reason—dey wasn't as corrupt as Republicans." dat

Illiteracy in Belgium.

Brussels Cor. London Standard. In some parts of Belgium 60 per cent of the population cannot read or write. Education is not compulsory, and the Government, which is Glerical, oppose the bill which the Liberals and Socialists are endeavoring to secure for com-pulsory education. The question is now before Parliament. The Government insists that the child belongs to his parents entirely, and that they cannot be forced to give him any education with-out infringing their rights to freedom

A Pound That Grows Heavier. Brocklyn Eagle. From Washington we learn that

standards of virtue are changing—that the official brass troy bound brought to this country in 1827 and now in the Bureau of Standards has increased in weight through oxidization exactly seven 1-1000ths of a grain.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

"What did Cholly give you in the way of a wedding present?"

"A tlara set with perfectly matched pork chops."

NO SINGLE TAX TOMFOOLERY HERE

Contempt for Millionnire Fels' Propo sal to Send Soap-Box Orators. PORTLAND, March 12.—(To the Editor.)—I note by the news dispatches that Joseph Fels, Eastern millionaire and financial supporter of the single tax propaganda, says that he is a robber. He seems so proud of the distinction that he advertises the fact. However, he is going to ease his con-science by trying to inflict a single tax law on the people of Oregon. Fels has made a fortune in soap and wants to spend it in promoting his fool the-ories in this state. Oregon has been les in this state. Oregon has been elected because we have the initiative

Some months ago I called attention to this coming political campaign through The Oregonian, and the property owners of Oregon should organize at once to protect their holdings from confiscation. The single tax campaign will be issueded in 1912, and every chean soan-box-content in the state will cheap soap-box-orator in the state will have a job. Those who have howled so long and so hard for the "corrupt practices act" to protect their virgin honor from temptation will have "soap money" to hurn. Mr. Wagnon and his crowd won't have to pass the hat around asking a nickel from each sympathizer, as they did in the campaign of 1908. Fels soap wrappers will be the insignia of battle.

and referendum amendment to the con-

It is refreshing to read Mr. Fels' statement that he is a robber, for no one doubts it; but there is no pleasure in the contemplation of his turning his gang loose in Oregon. We are not in the market for hold-up men. Oregon is a great state, with marvelous possi-bilities for advancement, but a single tax law would turn it into a place fit only for the abode of self-confessed robbers of the Fels type.

It is a mysterious trait of human nature, but a strong trait, neverthe-less, that prompts a man or set of men to endeaavor to destroy the conditions under which they made their money, so that no one else can make any. These types of men accumulate a for-tune themselves and then seek to prevent anyone else from making one In fact, they would prevent the masses from making a decent living if it were in their power. This trait is due to the elements of primordial tyranny that still exists in the human make-up Grant any man the proper conditions and he will develop into a tyrant. The estraining influences of society he necessities of his fellow-man the only factors that prevent him from

the only factors that prevent him from becoming a hog.

If Fels is such a lover of humanity, why hasn't he paid his thousands of employes more money instead of keeping all himself? I have never heard of his doing anything worthy of mention except make a profit off the washerwomen of the country. His name has been connected with the soap wrapper only. His statesmanship smells of soap suds and deodorized underclothes. Oregon doesn't need it in its business.

Mr. Fels has a great opportunity of the right sort. His money could be spent in teaching people better ideals of citizenship and in training them to work and save. No fortune was ever work and save. No fortune was even built by theoretical tomfoolery. Mr Fels' modest \$5,000,000 could soon be dissipated and no good accomplished.

Any young man in the city of Portland today, with average brains and energy, can accumulate \$5,000,000 during his lifetime if he will only put his will into action. It is necessary to have a will, however, before it can be employed. This money can be made only through speculation in land values. Mr. Fels nade his money that way. His single tax, however, would put every real es tute dealer out of business, for lane values would go to the state and not to the individual

If Oregon passes the single tax into law Canada will reap a rich harvest of Oregon's best citizens. GEORGE W. DIXON.

The Worship of Titled Snobs.

New York World. Lest there should be any sudden in-lux of belted Knights and coroneted bukes, warning should be issued to rope that Lady Maurier's comments on the lack of democratic ideals in this country are not to be taken seriously. Between trains at St. Louis she attle.

remarked: "Americans display a far Another advantage in favor of the greater eagerness and awe for royal general tax proposition is the simplicity prerogatives than do Europeans. Titles are of far greater value over here than where people are used to them. To most Americans "a Marquis, Duke and a' that" is a real curlosity. do not have them over here. If a member of the House of Lords were to advertise that he would exhibit him

self at so much a ticket he could probably fill a good-sized hall. A Hotten tot chief with cakes of mutton tallow for his chief head ornament would draw a crowd, on Oxford street. So would a Sloux Indian in war paint and buckskin if he appeared on the boulevards in Paris. Any unfamiliar object has a certain legitimate inter-

World's Champion Speller.

Kansas City Star. Professor D. Jones, the world's cham pion speller, is somewhat of a spell-pinder. He addressed a curious crowd in Kirksville, saying: "Good people, my ame is Jones, the school teacher. the greatest speller not only in Mis-souri but in the whole world. What's the harm in telling this if it's the truth? In 1870 while teaching school at Olathe I challenged the world to outspell me. The chancellor of the university went against me and I beat him. I have de-feated all aspirants to the champion-

An Apt Imitator.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.
"Does she seem to take kindly to somade such a pile?"
"Oh, yes, indeed. She was the loudest talker in the house at grand operathe other night." iety ways now that her husband has

Wings.

Wings.

Of primal ages, was a hairy fist,
All blood-bedabbled; for the hand had killed
Hefore it learned to sow and reap and build.
So each new tool was but a weapon, fit
To all new terrors to the blow of it;
The first rude ax was formed for bloody
doed. Split skulls before it served the builder's need. And thus through ages runs the tale; by of uses is the new-found tool accurst.
Yet we believe what prophet's words record.
That into plowsbares men shall beat the

For centuries we stood upon the edge Of space and yearned, while sparrows from the hedge Took flight and taunted us. "That I had wings!" "Mid stormy muste, thus the Psalmist sings.
"Then would I fly away and be at rest."
And io, the wings are ours, a gift, the best.
The genius of our race has forged; a tool.
Pit for our easer age. What says the fool.
The War-brute? "This is mine, for brawls and strife,
As hawk-wings are the hawk's—for taking life!"

Well, claim them, War-god! Use them till the race
Will kill for you no more. What narrow space
Holds man today apart from brother man, A range of rock, a river or a span
Of channel; and our wings shall overleap
These dwarfish landmarks. Then what king shall keep
His tolk from merging with humanity
As waters intermingle in the sea?

As waters intermingle in the sea?

Sali forth, winged Argonauts of trackless the approhensive man. "I'm tired of hearing shout that," replied Mr. Growcher, air.

And as upon your homeward course you fare the heaving treasure. Neither gold nor steel,

Nor gross and earthly wealth walch. Nor gross and earthly wealth weight your light keel;

Man's Brotherhood, bring that as Golden On sun-blest whish bright harbinger of peace.

Charlton Lawrence Edhelm, in Popular Mechanics.

Mechanics.

Mechanics.

— Charles and earthly wealth weight your light to me, it's raining violets, quoted the young man with peetry in his soul. "It is not raining rain to me, it's raining violets," quoted the young man with peetry in his soul. "It is not raining rain to me, it's raining violets," quoted the young man with peetry in his soul. "It is not raining too me, it's raining too his soul." It is not raining too me, it's raining too me, i

NO LIQUOR LAW RAISES TAXES.

"Dry" Victory at Pe Ell Means Town Is Almost Rendy For Sale. PE ELL, Wash., March 12.—(To the Editor.)-I want to give a few facts regarding our little City of Pe Ell,

Wash, which, by very serious efforts on the part of the local option party, was voted dry and closed up February 14, 1910. My reason for doing this is that it may be of some benefit to property-owners and merchants in other cities or towns where the people are contemplating an election on the wet and dry question.

The liquor dealers of this place were

The liquor dealers of this place were paying a license to this city of \$2500 per year and the city payroll is \$120 per month—it was paid from this revenue. When the saleons were closed February 14, 1910, the city was \$304 short of having enough to pay back the uncarned license. The city authorities wanted to pay the liquor dealers part in cash and give them town warrants for the balance. This the liquor dealers refused to take, and the city had to sell the City Park, of the liquor dealers refused to take, and the city had to sell the City Park, of 10 acres, in order to refund the cash. During the first week after the town went dry only 19 or 20 strangers came to the town. I think that at present all business men in the town will sacrifice a good sum to dispose of their business, for there is no one com-ing to town. their business, for there is no one com-ing to town. Every traveling man that comes to this place tells the same story. The merchants say the change is far worse than at any time during the financial panic of over two years ago. The city has cut off practically the only revenue it had. There is a county bridge being built on the city limit line, and the city's part of this will be about \$500. The city also wants to pave Main street. If anyone will be about \$500. The city also wants to pave Main street. If anyone can show me where all the money is to come from without taxing the property-owners to death, I am willing to be shown.

I am a poor financier, and if anyone discredits what I say let him come to Pe Ell and see for himself. All our transient trade has gone to other towns. I advise people where the dry or wet question comes up, to weigh it well before they vote. I am a property-owner and a taxpayer-not a trav-

WILLIAM ZACKOVITCH.

WANTS WATER PAID BY TAXES. Writer Shows Symptoms of Single-

Taxer and Socialist. PORTLAND, March 12.—(To the Editor.)—In your editorial "Water Main Justice" you take the right stand as Justice" you take the right stand as regards the burdens for the extension of water mains at the expense of the consumers and the impositions heretofore practiced thereby to the benefit of

fore practiced thereby to the benefit of the empty lot speculators.

In condemning the placing of the cost of mains on the general property tax do you not forget that the mains extended to the empty lot thereby raises its assessable value? And will it not be also true that the man with a lot on Washington street will pay as much as 1008 \$200-lot men, without nuch as 1000 \$200-lot men whom the Washington-street lot would

e worth very little?
Does not the valuable lot in the heart of the city owe something to the small home-owner, whose labors and very presence have made these values? Another reason why the opinion is growing that the general property tax should pay for the mains is that big properties must have new mains laid within a few years in order adequately to protect skyscrapers built on them, and to supply them with water. The cheaper water is to the consumer, the more attractive the city is to the small-barne will be the consumer. ome-bullder, without whom the skyscraper would never rear its head. Since the valuable business block is made more valuable by the water mains, just as is the lot in the outskirts, why should it not pay in propor-

tion to its value for the mains which, like lights, police, schools, etc., make Portland such a delightful place of We are going to get after the speulator in idle land in another way that will not be so cumbersome as trying to make him pay for water mains by foot, regardless of the value of property, a measure which small home owner pretty hard in Se-

of its collection. It will wipe out a lot of useless expense attendant upon the present collection of revenues for the

ARTHUR BROCK.

"S. O. S." Call at Sea.

RANGE, Or., March 18.—(To the Editor.)—Please inform me through The Oregonian what "S. O. S." and "C. D. stands for in wireless telegraphy. A SUBSCRIBER.

Inquiries at various Federal and marine offices in this city show that the letters "S. O. S." and "C. D. Q." In wireless telegraphy are, in the Morse code, sent as calls for assistance at sea, and that the new "S. O. S." signal is preferred to the older one, as it is the easier to send in dots and dashes. As to what the letters stand for, there is dispute.

The Barn Gallon.

Farm and Home.

The old form of milk measure—viz., the barn gallon—the use of which is now illegal, is still retained in the London trade, though, so far as the term is used in documents, to overcome the illegality it is expressed as "per lot

e barn gallon represents 17 pints of milk, or two gallons and one pint, and is a relic of the olden days when the dairyman thought it necessary to have an extra pint given in with two gallons from the farmers in order to counterbalance the small amount lost in measuring the milk out in small quantities to his customers.

Elgin Puts Up Two Tickets.

ELGIN, Or., March 13 .- (Special)-At a caucus held in the City Hall re-centive two tickets were put in the field for next Tuesday's election. The for next Tuesday's election. The ticket supporting the present administration appears as the Citizens' ticket. Those declaring that the prohibition law has been ignored by the administration are down as the Citizens' Independent. The Citizens' Independent appears to be the atronger

CNURRENT NEWSPAPER GLEANINGS.

"Why don't you teach your son a lesson by making him live without his allowance for a while?" "Goodhess! I can't even make him live within it!" "Cleveland Leader. "Then you think that motormen are more cautions than chaffeure?" "They have to be. They can't swerve if the pedestrian loses his head."—Louisville Courier-Journal. Lord Fitzmoodle (during the storm)—Take heart, captain! If necessary, we cabin passengers will raise a purse that will make it really worth your while to save us!—Puck. "Say, old chap, lend me ten dollars." "My dear young friend, don't you know that this eagerness for money is very bad-that money is neithing, after all, but trouble?" "Yes, I know, but then it's my disposition to be borrowing trouble."—Haltimore America by the control of the