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PORTLAND, MONDAY, MAY 16, 1910.

AN ASSEMBLY OF AN ENLIGHTENED PEOPLE.

As if the coming Republican assembly could force voters in the primaries and then in the election to accept its nominees, whether they shall be good or otherwise, the Scio News says:

This interference with the prerogative of the primary voter is simply a gross insult to his intelligence. It is equivalent to saying, we (the assemblyites) are men of superior political sagacity and because of this fact we are more competent to select the men we are we are more competent to select the men who shall conduct the affairs of state than you of the common herd. We will select the you of the common new plebelans, may have nominees while you, plebelans, may have the privilege of walking up to the polls and voting for whom we tell you to vote.

Not at all, neighbor. The convention will offer the primary voter a "ticket" of candidates, from whom he can select men who in his judgment are fit; or he can reject the whole list and substitute candidates better to his liking. No "dose" can be forced down his throat nor any sugar-coated bitterness.

But primary voters can administer the assembly a dose of they so wish. However, they will not wish to do this, if the assembly ticket shall be made up of worthy candidates. Voters of Portland did not wish to reject the ticket of the city assembly last year.

The assembly is a labor-saving im provement of democracy for determining policies and selecting candidates for official place. It is used by citizens in every activity of life and certainly is a proper means of political action. It is the most approved method people have ever devised for adjusting differences of interest and opinion and determining common basis for social movements in their multifarious phases. It is known as the representative or republican method of political action. Assembly can mean no reproach to the intelligence of the people, nor to their abil-

ity to rule themselves and choose their officials. It is one of the most approved instrumentalities of political Government is & limitation on the free will of a people, yet it signifies no impeachment of their intelligence that they cannot exist as a social body without government.

But, getting back to the starting point, it is clear that the Republican convention next Summer can force the people to do nothing. It can only advise and suggest. The people will take they are worth and deal with them in the primaries accordingly. Self-ap-pointed alarmists affront the electorate when they declare voters will not intelligently deal with the work of the convention.

Members of an assembly are not more intelligent than the people, nor handful of population. Railroads They act do they pretend to be. merely in representative capacity, as a of citizens are doing who go to Canfunction of enlightened political action. And the more enlightened the people, the more representative will be the assembly.

by a route more than 400 miles shorter than that over which the Union Pacific and its connections can reach Spokane.

Thus the short haul over the Hill roads becomes the long haul over the Harriman road, and if the latter read were not permitted to charge sufficient to meet these "circum-stances and conditions," its line into Spokane territory would be left without traffic, side from that originating locally. The problem is of such vast proportions and is affected by such innumerable complications and conditions that the application of any hard and fast rule, such as was demanded by interior jobbing centers, would have demoralized the business

of the country without offering any thing in the way of comp.nsation. In the hands of the Interstate Commerce commission, the matter will have sufficient flexibility to prevent disaster.

LESSONS IN NON-PARTISANSHIP.

The State Grange of Oregon, said to e a non-partisan organization, last week debated all the political quesions on the calendar. The Multno mah Bar Association, also non-partisan, declared that only those men should be selected for judges who are chosen by the political party of lawyers. The State Federation of Labor. also non-partisan, from time to time announces its political "stand" on issues and candicates. Very soon the Prohibition and the Socialist parties will make known their political preferences. So, too, will the Republican party.

The point of which is the sham and humbug of "non-partisan." Men declare themselves non-partisan in re-

gard to the purposes and policies of opponents, and yet confess themselves partisan as to their own. The Bar Asociation thinks no group of citizens but its own should select judgeswhich is its method of choosing a nonpartisan judiciary. The Grange thinks that only its policies should be enacted laws and that only such men should be elected as will carry them out. Likewise the Labor Federation and the Prohibition party.

A non-partisan person is one who does not engage in politics, either with oratory, electioneering or ballot. Yet such a person is not classed as a member of desirable citizenship.

into

Truth is, there is no such thing as ion-partisanship, nor are there nonpartisans. The State Grange and the Labor Federation are hardly non-partisan when they hold assemblies of their own respective parties and denounce assembly of the Republican DArty

If any organization is to be consistantly non-partisan, it will have to stay out of politics; also forbear attempting leadership or creation of a political group or party f its own.

BLIGHT SPOTS IN OREGON.

The boom of activity in Oregon is due to railroad and other development; and it shows up marvelously, in spite of the hindrances of Pinchot onservation. Bear in mind that there is no boom in the Government reservations, which constitute nearly onethird the area of the state.

Nor is there boom of activity in any of the lands of the West that have been Federalized as great reservations. A total & 375,000 square miles is thus onserved." And poor Alaska, which has scarcely any activities to make up the advice and suggestions for what | for this public-land blight, is in sore distress, as Governor Clark and commercial bodies of the territory have sought to point out to Congress. If Oregon had nothing to depend on

for its prosperity save Pinchotism and conservation and land withdrawals, it would now have no boom and but a rarely been equaled anywhere. would go elsewhere, just as thousands

cific both reach Spokane from good ings are largely new capital that has traffic territory in the Middle West but recently been brought into the but recently been brought into the state. It has found in Portland and Portland territory exceptional opportunities for investment and development and the maximum of this strong

upward movement in all industrial lines will not be reached so long as there remain so many opportunities for capital and labor. Later in the season, this money,

now being invested in farms, timber and fruit lands, will be reinforced by the returns from what now promise to be one of the largest grain crops ever produced in the Pacific Northwest. Fish are running well, the out-look for hops is favorable, livestock is still commanding record prices, the whole world is hungry for Oregon fruit, and, if there are any clouds in the industrial sky which canopies Oregon, they have not yet assumed size that renders them visible to the naked eye.

THE REAL PINCHOTISM.

A man named Kerby, a stenographer in the office of the Secretary of the Interior, has made public a statement to the effect that a memorandum prepared by Assistant Attorney-General Lawler, with the aid of Scoretary Ballinger, was used by the President as the real foundation for the letter of the President last Fall exonerating Mr. Ballinger from the various charges made against him in connection with the Cunningham coal cases and other matters. The muckrakers and yellow newspapers are greatly excited thereat. They profess to think they have uncarthed a great conspiracy of some kind between the President, Ballinger and others. To do what? Nobody knows.

Now suppose the President had bodily adopted the Lawler memorandum and issued it as his own document or utterance? What then? It is a con-

stant practice in the departments for subordinates to prepare letters and documents for consideration of their superiors, and for use by them of such materials, in whole or in part, as they may see fit. The materials of every message of every President are prepared by a multitude of hands. But it is shown that the Taft letter of 3500 words included less than 200 words of

the Lawler document of 8000. Taft went over the whole subject carefully, himself, and wrote his exoneration of Ballinger; who, in fact, has not violated the law in any particular, but is accused merely of unfriendliness to Pinchot's system of alleged conservation. The investigation started with the charge that Ballinger had violated the law, but no evidence whatever has

been presented to sustain it. The significant feature of this whole miserable affair is the action of Kerby. who occupied a confidential relation to Ballinger. Who procured Kerby to betray Ballinger? Why? What was the inducement? What the mo-tive? It is incredible that so gross

and inexcusable a violation of his plain trust could have been inspired by any ordinary consideration. Kerby's silly talk about his "duty to the people" being greater than his "duty to Ballinger" will justify him with no one. He is a snivelling scoundrel who played the spy on Ballinger and now acts the traitor in endeavoring to stir up a nasty mess over nothing at all. Kerby

says he expects to be dismissed, but that he has promises that he "will be taken care of." Now let us see who is bold enough to care for so craven Here is Pinchotism in its real guise.

Its so-called motive is to "protect" the people and "save the public domain." Its actual method has been to steal private letters, bribe trusted clerks ell confidential information to muckraking magazines, and conduct a campaign on law-abiding public officers that for malignity and ferocity has

AS TO MUNICIPAL DOCKS.

sels had not been coming to Portland and unloading and receiving cargo for the last sixty years.

THE MORNING OREGONIAN, MONDAY,

But for the agitation for municipal docks and the threat of destroying their property, private owners long ago would have constructed larger and better docks than the city now archs are to be put up in the Parliament Palace, we have been favored by a young lady (connected with the court) has, and would do it now, immediatewith

ly, if the menace were removed. All the important shipping firms and houses of the city have docks or wharves of their own, and can handle freight at less cost than the city could do it for them.

He preferred Hanover to England; He preferred two hideous Mistresses To a beautiful and innocent Wife. He hated Arts and despised Literature; But if the city should go into the business it would desire and expect to monopolize it; which it might do by But he liked train-oil in his salada, And gave an enlightened patronage to making the rates low enough and charging the deficit up to those who pay the taxes. And he had Walpole as a Minister-

The Astoria Chamber of Commerce has taken up with the delegation at Washington the matter of making Astoria a "port of call" for foreign

"seeking" charters not yet efor fected. It is proposed to exempt these vessels from all tonnage dues, providing they depart for a foreign port without taking cargo. It is believed that the passage of a law extending such favors to foreign vessels which come to the Coast without orders would divert to the Columbia River many vessels which now go to Royal Roads, B. C., where they are not obliged to pay tonnage or other dues. The change suggested has merit. If it should be made, a further inducement to attract this stray tonnage to the Columbia River might be made by reducing the towage and pilotage rates on vessels of this class, which will not come here with a free port like Royal

Roads so near at hand. The United States, which for the

past six months has been trailing along behind the rest of the world with weekly wheat shipments of from 1,500,000 bushels to 2,000,000 bushels, has suddenly discovered that th wheat bins are not all empty. Last week the shipments from this country were more than 2,900,000 bushels, ex ceeding by more than 500,000 bushels the combined shipments of Australia, the Argentine, India and the Danube A great many of the American far mers who would not sell wheat at the high prices which proved so attractive to the growers of other countries are now apparently satisfied with from 20 to 30 cents per bushel than they could have secured when the wheat was ready for market last Fall.

Irrigation and timber have worked wonders in the State of Washington

North Yakima has advanced from a city of about 3000 people ten years ago to 15,000 population, and Hoquiam, down in the heart of the country where the song of the band-saw is never stilled, is also expecting to reach the 15,000 mark. Portland knows the value of Hoquiam's trade Perhaps we should urge the completion of that Northern Pacific cut-off from Vancouver into the Yakima country.

Hoquiam, Olympia and Tacoma I was conqueror, but yet not proud; And careless even though Napoleon have all held riotous jollification meetings in appreciation of the large number of people whom the census The rescued Kings came to kiss my man is supposed to have counted. As vet the only big noise that has been The eard from Seattle is the howl of protest because the census man failed to

enumerate as many people as Seattle My guns roared triumph, but I never thought she had. All England thrilled with joy, I never

We have great respect for those Labor Federation resolutions on taxa-tion, says the State Grange, but, oh! you single tax. The scheme of making the land assume all the burdens of taxation doesn't make a hit with your farmer. Single (land) tax, however,

GEORGE ULTIMUS. continues to make great progress He left an example for age and for among citizens who own no land. youth

ENGLAND'S OTHER GEORGES. us Satirist Furnished Pen Portrait of Them Long Age. From W. M. Thackeray's Contribution to Punch. As the statues of these beloved mon-

Attempted Revival of Old Method of Leasing Public Lands, Which Was Prerogative of Royalty-This Government Long Ago Discarded It.

PORTLAND, May 14.-(To the Editor.)-presume The Oregonian will welcome iny reasonable contribution to the general discussion of so-called conservation of our any reasonable contribution to the general the copies of the inscriptions natural resources, for brevity called Pin-

As I understand it. Mr. Pinchot and his followers contend that the Government should retain the title to the mineral and forest lands and water-power sites on the public domain, and lease the same to its clitizens, charging a stated royalty or rent. or an annual tax for the use of the prop erty. This is what is really meant b Pinchotism. This true meaning of Pin chotism is constantly confused with that universal idea of conservation which all men approve; the preservation, guarding and protection of our natural resources This will and can be done as officetively in the hands of private persons as in the Consistent in his Preference for every In most things I did as my father had in the hands of private persons as in the hands of the Government. Pinchotism is a reversion to what is known as the re galian system, which prevails more or less in the Old World governments; or, in other words, a survival of a portion of the old feudal system and the doctrine of royal mines. In the former case, there was a duity or service due the lord by custom, and often this pay or royalty was delivered in kind. In the latter case, the mines belonged to the crown, by virtue of its prerogative, although in lands of sub-jects. The King demanded the payment of certain royalties

of certain royalties.

Whether or not any particular govern-

mental policy should be imposed upon a people at any particular time, is to be determined by the effect such policy will have upon the people and material devel-opment of the common country. Govern, opment of the common country. Govern, mental policies are like laws-they are the result or product of years of socia growth or progress. Our laws and gov ernmental policies have been developing all through the years, since the founda-tion of our Government. It is known by every student of history, that a people emigrating to a new from an old country carry with them the laws of the mother country, and adopt them in so far as they are adaptable to the wants and needs of the new country. This is our history. Our forefathers, being largely of English extraction, planted in this country the Eng lish common law in so far as it was adaptable to the conditions and environment of the new country. It is not strange, therefore, that our early statesmen should have attempted to plant in this country some of the Old World's governmental policies. It so happened that in legislating concerning the natural resources, the affine thing was at-tempted and partly executed, that is be-ing advocated by those under the name of Pinchotism. March 3, 1807, Congress passed a law reserving for future disposal of the United States all lead mines in the Northwest Territory and authorizing the Presi-dent to lease out such mines for a term not exceeding five years. This legislation inaugurated the policy of the Government leasing its mineral lands. It was not until 1822 that the Government availed itself of this law, and then confined the leasing to lead and what is known as the base metals, gold, sliver and coal not being of sufficient impor-tance to be noticed. An inroad upon this policy was first made when Congress in 1829 authorized the sale of the lead miner Missouri; and again in 1846 and 1847 ongress authorized the sale of the coper, lead and iron lands, in what are no ha States of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minn lota, Iowa, Illinois and Missouri. B But mineral lands on the public domain, else-where, were still reserved from sale; and he regalian theory or leasing system was

still the policy of the Government. Upon this policy, President Polk in his first Message to Congress, December 2, 1845, hed this to say: rescued Kings, I never heeded had this to say: The present system of managing the min-eral fands of the United States is believed to be radically defective. More than a mil-lion acres of the public lands, supposed to contain lead and other minerals, have been reserved from sale, and numerous leases on them have been granted to individuals upon a slipulated rent. The system of granting leases has proved to be not only unprofitable to the Government, but unsatisfactory to the oitigeng who have gone upon the lands, and What care had I of pomp, or fame, or

crazy old blind man in Windsor ONE U'RENIC FAD EXPLODED.

the Old World and its monarchs.

has Mr. U'Ren to attempt absolute

faddist, undertake to run our state

The Comet of 1882.

-Now that we are hearing and read-ing so much about Halley's and other comets, I would like to know and per-

haps it would interest others to be in-formed what comet appeared about 1882 or 1883 and whether it will re-

appear. I was living at that time in Pennsylvania and recollect that it ap-

Probably this was Biela, whose per-

Mr. U'Ren's "Back-Up."

Gervals Star.

ance of the measures considered val-uable by the league that they were dropped. One was the "State Cabinet"

idea and the other was the "County

Commission" plan, all vicious legisla-tion. No one regrets their demise save

the author, and he is becoming hard-ened over the "death loss of his meas-

Covert Threat.

G. C. K.

the north and was very brilliant.

PORTLAND, May 14 .- (To the Editor.)

and the people?

and a half years.

ures.'

The

affairs.

One-Man Government Is Too Much for New York Newspaper Asks How Long Dear People of Ore

Pinchotism a Reversion to Feudal Days

on of so-called conservation of our by the Government for the y by the Government for the years 1841, 1842, 1843 and 1844, was \$6,354.74, while the ex-penses of the system during the same pe-riod, including salaries of the superintend-ents, agents, clerks and incidental expenses, were \$26,111.11, the income being less than one-fourth of the expense. To this pecuniary loss may be added the injury sustained by the public in consequence of the destruction of timber, and the carciess and wantful manner of working the mines. The system has given rise to much litigation between the United States and individual clinens, producing agitation and excitement in the oducing agitation and excitement in the ineral region, and involving the Govern-ent in heavy additional expenditures. It believed that similar longer and embar-

sements will continue to occur while the esent system of leasing these lands re-ains unchanged. President Fillmore, in his annual message to Congress December 2, 1819, re-ferred to the subject in the following terms:

terms: 1 also beg leave to call your attention to the propriety of extending at an early day-our system of land laws, with such modifica-tions as may be necessary, over the State of California and the territoriel of Utan and New Mexico. The mineral lands of Califor-nia will, of course, form an exception to the general system which may be adopted. Vari-ous methods of disposing of them have been suggested. I was at first inclined to favor the system to be as a first inclined to prom-lee the largest revenue to the Government, and to afford the best security ngainst me-nopolists; but further reflection and our ex-perience in leasing the lead mines and sell-ing lands upon credit, have brought my perience in leading the read mines and seli-ing lands upon credit. have brought my mind to the conclusion that there would be great difficulty in collecting the rents, and that the relation of debtor and creditor be-tween the cltizens and the Government would be attended with many mischlevous consequences. I therefore recommend that instead of retaining the mineral lands under the permanent control of the Government. e permanent control of the Government, sy be divided into small parcels and sold. ader such restrictions as to quantity and me as will insure the best price and guard ost effectually against combinations of apitalists to obtain monopolies.

Hon. Abram S. Hewitt, in an address before the American Institute of Mining Engineers, quoting from Professor Whil-ney's work on metallic wealth of the Uni-ted States, has the following to say upon the practical operation of this leasing system:

the practical operation of this gasing system: No leases were issued under the law until 1822, and but a small quantity of lead was raised previous to 1826, from which time the production began to increase rapidly. For a few years, the rants were paid with tolerable regularity, but after 1834, in con-sequence of the immense number of illeral entries of mineral land with the Wieconsin land office, the smellers and miners refused to make any further payments, and the Government was entirely unable to collect them. After much trouble and expense, if was in 1847, finally concluded that the only way was to sell the mineral land and do away with all reserves of lead or any other metal, since they had only been a source of embarrassment to the department. Mean-while by a forced construction (ufterward declared invalid) of the same art, hundreds of leases were granted to speculators in the Lake Superior copper region, which was from 1843 to 1846 the scaus of wild and baseless exclement. The bubble burst dur-ing the latter year; the issue of permits and leases were supended as illegal and the act of 1847, anthorizing the sale of the mineral lands and the geological survey of the dis-trict, laid the foundation of a more substan-tial prosperity.

ial prosperity.

It was not until July 26, 1866, that Congress passed a law, general in its scope, mpowering citizens to gain complete title to mineral land and establishing the prin, ciple that all the mineral lands of the public domain should be free and open to exploration and occupation. This regalian and leasing system, this idea that the Government should retain the title to its nineral lands, prevailed in for over 50 years, breeding lightion, expense, trouble and dismay, until its co plete overthrow by the act of Congress of

After half a century of growth and material prosperity of our Nation, even be-yond the expectations of the wildest enthusiast, we are confronted by a hords of office-seekers and their sympathing seeking to inflict this country with a policy, tested, found wanting and repudiated by this Government over 50 years ago. S. T. JEPFREYS.

OREGON A LAW-MAKING CURIO.

was false to my wife and I hated ships coming into the river for order my My spending was small and my avarice much: My kingdom was English, my heart was High Dutch. At Dettingen fight I was known not to blench, I butchered the Scotch and I bearded the French. neither had morals, nor manners,

nor wit; I wasn't much missed when I died in Here set up my statue, and make it

complete With Pitt on his knees at my dirty old feet.

MAY 16, 1910.

which are to be engraven under the images of those Stars of Brunswick.

GEORGE THE FIRST-STAR OF

BRUNSWICK.

GEORGE IL.

bad oysters.

kind of Corruption

GEORGE III.

Give me a royal niche, it is my due, The virtuousest King the realm e'er knew.

through a decent, reputable life, Was constant to plain food and a plain wife.

Ireland I risked and lost America But dined on legs of mutton every day.

My brain, perhaps, might be a feeble part:

But yet I think I had an English heart.

When all the Kings were prostrate, I alone Stood face to face against Napoleon:

Nor ever could the ruthless Frenchman

forge A fetter for Old England and Old George.

let loose flaming Nelson on his fleets; met his troops with Wellesley's bayonets.

Triumphant waved my flag on land and sea-

Where was the King in Europe like to me?

Monarchs exiled found shelter on my shores;

My bounty rescued Kings and Emperors

But what boots victory by land or sea? What boots that Kings found refuge at my knee?

bow'd.

them.

heard-

stirred.

Tower?

A.

garment's hem:

COAST CONTENTION SUSTAINED.

The long-and-short-haul clause of the railroal bill as agreed o in the U. S. Senate, is strictly in accord with the demands ma to by people who are not entirely dependent on railroad transport: 'lon, but who object to hav. ing the advantages of natural tion nullified by legislation in the in terest of communities less favorably situated. The wise provision in section 4 of the amend d ill gives the Interstate Con merce Commission power to authorize cor tra. carriers charge less for a long haul than for a short haul where the "distances and conditions of the long haul are dissimilar to the circumstances and conditions of the shorter haul, whether they result from competition by water or rail." This leaves the matter in the position where a community favored by "circumstances and conditions" can appear before the Commission, and on submission of proper proof of its advantages can secure a lower rate for the long haul than for the short haul.

Eventually, when the interior points secure a little firmer grasp on the complex factors that enter into the problem, it will be understood that it not the coast alone that is to profit by a lower rate for the long haul than for the short haul. If the transcontinental roads were to be shut out of the Pacific Coast terminal business, as they surely would be if the interior points were granted a lower rate to Coast terminals, their earning capacity would be so seriously impaired that it would immediately become necessary to advance rates on all intermediate traffic. In other words the roads would to all intents and purposes cease to be transcontinental lines and would become local roads on which insufficient traffic would be handled to warrant as low rates as would prevail with through traffic to help out the earnings.

It is the combination of through traffic and local traffic that enables a rallroad system to show the best earnings on all of its terminals, stations, track and other equipment. Any loss that results from curtailing business in one part of the system must be made up on another. If Spokane, for example, were to be granted lower \$400.000 rates than those fixed by water com-petition at Portland, the railroads would lose the business west of Spokane and would be forced to make up the deficit by charging a higher rate to Spokane. In the new bill the Interstate Commerce Commission is permitted to recognize the merits of a stock; but our great resources of lower rate for the long haul than for grain, fruit, fish, hops and other stathe short haul by rail, as well as by water. The merit of this provision is also admirably shown by actual conditions now prevailing at Spokane. The months later. The millions that are Great Northern and the Northern Pa- now going into real estate and build-

In the past year 100,000 best Americans have sought cheap land in Canada and taken with them \$100,000,000 So great has the exodus become that officials of the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce and Labor perceive the need of some corrective. The Administration has already caused 4,000,000 acres of lands withdrawn to be restored to entry. Yet there remain 240,000,000 acres in reservations of various sorts, or one-eighth the area of the Nation. Were the agricultural lands of the Far West relieved from Pinchotism, Americans would not be hastening to Canada. Could they obtain land from the Government at \$2.50 an acre, as the laws say they may, a great expanse of now-reserved and in Oregon and other states would be contributing to the boom of activ-

More than the equivalent areas of Washington, Oregon and California combined are locked up by "conserva tion" in the West. Officials in the National capital need not marvel at the migration to Canada. Heads of the Hill and Harriman railroads in Oregon know that only part of the land in Oregon is contributing to activity in this commonwealth. The one-third that is locked up is doing nothing.

PORTLAND STILL LEADS.

Portland led all Pacific Coast cities in percentage of gain in bank clearings last week, the total of more than \$10,000,000 showing a gain of 26.7 per cent over the corresponding week last year. Los Angeles was next on the list, with a gain of 20.5 per cent, and San Francisco developed a gain of 14.7 per cent. Seattle showed a decrease of 6.7 per cent, this being the first decrease noted in the Puget Sound city for many months. Not only do the figures indicate that Portland is the best city on the Pacific Coast, but of all American cities show ing clearings in excess of \$10,000,000 last week, only three others, Atlanta, Galveston and St. Paul, exceeded Portland in percentage of gain. Other unmistakable evidence of the prosperity of the city was reflected in the real estate transfers and building permits for the week. Including a large number of dollar transactions, in which the actual value ran into the thousands, the total real estate transfers for the week were \$755,059, with uilding permits well in excess of

It will hardly fail to be noted that this remarkable showing in bank clearings, building permits and real Genoa. estate transfers has been made in a period that is usually known as "between seasons." Some money is coming in for wool, and a little for liveples, which run the value of our harvests far up in the millions, are not ment needed now contributing as they will a few facilities.

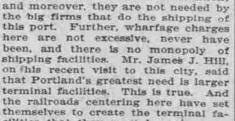
None of the blg shipping interest in Portland needs public docks. Saw-

mills have their own wharves and do One shudders to think what might their own shipping; so do flour mills exporting firms, railroads and riverboat companies-except one, however, whose representatives have besought the Council and the Mayor to burden taxpayers of Portland with a dock county. project whose cost will be millions of

dollars, and whose best achievement will be a landing place for the steamboat J. N. Teal. If it were necessary for Portland to

make itself a great port by such artificial means, then expenditure for it would be proper and justifiable. But natural advantages that have made this city the chief port of the North Pacific are present without prodigious public expenditure of money to make

them. Instead, Portland's work has as Editor Fiske always runs it. There's been that of improving the river with channels and with pilotage and towage. For this end, the city has taxed itself with satisfactory results. And it will spend much more money in this direction. Public docks, however, would take money from other necessary improvements; they would add heavily to public debt and taxation;



cilities that they must have to carry on their business, present and future. No cause for undue excitement about this matter, nor for ranting by the newspaper organ of persons who own dock sites and might consent to sell them to the city. That same newspaper is organ of the steamboat

company that thinks its own need of docks is the city's; also organ of the clay-pipe and plumbing trust, which desires to ship sewer-pipe up and down river. But these considerations really do not warrant the public's going heavily into debt for public docks. The city and its people will first look

after their own interests. If this city needed to create an artificial harbor, then it could reasonably launch itself upon a mammoth debt project. But it will probably never have to do this, owing to its superior natural advantages. Were it situated like the port annex of Los Angeles, or

or the Lorthern ports of France, perhaps it would be impelled to do something big. Its chief concern is that of open river seaward and inland. For this it has spent money moderately and at the same time liberally, and will continue so to do. the immediate "iver frontage of tha city, dredging is the greatest improve-With the river scooped out there will be no lack of wharfage

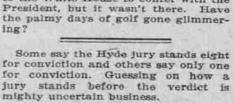
Some persons talk as if ocean ves- few weeks later.

have happened to that unfortunate woman bitten by a rattlesnake, whom Mr. Hill heroically carried on to Lakeview, if Lake had been a dry county. Or is it? Well, Mr. Hill isn't a dry

It is clear now that there will also be a Hill road from east to west through Central Oregon, as well as north and south. Central Oregon embraces nearly everything that is now

left out of doors. The Polk County Itemizer is to be run this week by church people "as Christ would edit it." Next week it will resume business at the old stand,

a difference. You may have tried to find his name in that list of Western Senators called to the White House to confer with the President, but it wasn't there. Have the palmy days of golf gone glimmer-



Father Vandever, of Walla Walla, permits himself to get a good deal stirred up over the Whitman myth.

Right. It was Jim Hill. A New York man has married the mother of his father's wife. By and by the problem will be as to who will mind the baby when the young folks spend an evening out.

Kings and comets come and go, but Victoria of Spain pursues the even tenor of her way. They are again overhauling the baby clothes in the palace.

The chief forecaster of the Weather Bureau has gone where the temperature makes no trouble and the anemometer is at rest. He is dead.

Only two more days till May 18, and yet, sad to say, there are millions of people who have not seen the comet. And won't.

There is a new Irish orator in Par-Hament whom "even Orangemen ad-That is blarney, pure and simmire."

Creswell, which is in the newest orhard region, postponed its clean-up day to May 20, to let the comet get by.

This is hardly seasonal weather, but t is good for roses just now and a

To avoid. He never acted well by Man or Woman, And was as false to his Mistress as to to have found it necessary to "back

up" on his proposed initiative measure, his Wife. He deserted his Friends and his Prin- to have been submitted to the people

at the November election, making the ciples. He was so Ignorant that he could Governor of the state a sort of king scarcely Spell;

and all-powerful in handing out state But he had some Skill in Cutting out offices to his friends and favorites, Coats, thus taking away from the people their

And an undeniable taste for Cookery. right to rule. A law that would give He built the Palaces of Brighton and to the Governor the power to appoint of Buckingham;

And for these Qualities and Proofs of the Secretary of State, State Treasurer Genius

An admiring Aristocracy Christened him the "First Gentleman in Europe.

Friends, respect the King whose statue is here,

And the generous Aristocracy who admired him.

What They Say,

Detroit News.

(When a new family moved into the flat across the hall.) "I don't know who they are, but

they have some mighty pretty furniture

"I think I'll just run across and ask if there's anything I can do for them; they seem like nice, quiet people." "That's a mighty good-looking girl that I just saw going in there; Fil have to get next."

"I hope that baby isn't one of the kind that squalls all night."

and its attendant fallacies in the state of Oregon? Certainly not until the "He seems to be pretty well off, and he never goes to work until almost 9 o'clock; I wonder what he does?" people, and not one man, and that on

'I hear that she entertains a good deal; I'll have to call as soon as they're nicely settled."

hope their girl and ours won't Whitman didn't save Oregon, he says. get so chummy right away as the one with the last family did."

Ballinger's Promised Clean-Up.

Yakima Republic.

Mr. Ballinger frankly says that if he stays at the head of the Interior Department he will have loyal men in charge of the work it does. This is taken to mean that the Secretary in-tends to dismiss Major Newell and Chief Engineer Davis at his earliest convenience. The people of the West who have had an opportunity to ob-serve the manner in which the Government irrigation work has been handied will express few regrets when these gentlemen step down and out. Their services seem to be far from in-

lispensable. The interests the of Two new bills proposed by the Peo-ple's Power League, or as they are West, of course, demand loyalty to the head of the department, on the part of head of the department, on the part of those in charge of the work. They also demand a breadth of business judgment which these gentlemen have not dis-played up to this time. better known, U'Ren's measures, are virtually dead. They were presented to the people, through pamphlets, who had raised such a protest against their adoption that it engangered the bal-ance of the measures considered val-

Willie Knew Better.

Puck. School Trustee-Remember. children. Michelangelo often worked for months on a single curve. Willie-Watcher givinus? Never

heard of the bush leaguer!

Her Explanation. Harper's Bazar.

Howard-Bridget, did my wife come in a few minutes ago? Bridget-No. sir. you heard a-hollerin, That's the parrot

Eugene Register. U'Ren, the Oregon lawgiver, seems

People's Patience Will Last. New York Tribune. Is there no Hmit to the patience and industry of the Oregon voter? At the

last election he had to pass upon a score of legislative proposals after digesting a book as big as a "best seller" setting forth their merits and demorits. That was only an appetizer, so to speak. This year he will have about 39 proposals before him.

The Oregon people are only just learning to use the initiative, and there appears to be a, tendency in every and all other state officers, as well as County Attorneys and County Sheriffs, would us the greatest abuse of power group or locality which has ' some project at heart that would be hopeless efore the Legislature to submit it to a republican form of government could have It is remarkable that U'Ren, whose hue and cry has been for poputhe whole people of the state. schools are initiating bills to revive themselves in three different towns. lar government, should thus face about in an effort to give this state a cenfive new countles are trying to carve themselves out of existing tralized government on a par with the most centralized form known to There is an employers' liability measure urged by the labor unions to be submitted to the people; also a meas-ure creating "people's inspectors, If one man is to rule the state, where oes the people's rule come in? Of whatever they may be; another for the payment of expenses of delegates to what good is the direct primary and Statement No. 17 If the voice of the the National conventions by payers, and another providing for the selection of such delegates and of Presidential electors at direct primaries. people is the voice of God, what right fore, he has preached with such ve-We take our hat off to the popular leg-We take our hat our to the popular leg-islators of Oregon. If they keep up their interest they will soon voto on election day upon as many bills as come before a Legislature in a session. hemence and with some success by setting up one man in the state as God question recurs at this time. and the voters' guide on legislative proposals will be as big-as an unawhen will we have done with U'Renism

oridged dictionary.

Roosevelt Rebuked.

Cathlamet Sun.

Cathamet Sun. Colonel Roosevelt says: "Timid good men are of little use in this world." Softly, Teddy, softly. If they were all fire-eaters like yourself they would fire-ments like yourself they would soon have this country in a turmoil and confusion from which it would find it difficult to extract itself. Timid good men do not seek trouble but they are much benefit to the country and often check the over zealous reformers who, if unrestrained, would create peared about September or October in havoc with organized institution is a good thing for the country that a large portion of its citizens are "timid" who "rush in where angels fear tread." good men rather than "rash" ihelion passage is recorded as of Sep-tember 23, 1882. It appears every six

Such Excellent Milk.

Once a Week. A simple-hearted and truly devout country preacher, who had tasted but few of the drinks of the world, took dinner with a high-toned family, where down by each plate. In silence and happiness this new Vicar of Wakefield quaffed his gablet and added: "Madam, you should daily thank God for such a good cow.

An Impressive Spectacle.

New York World. What an impressive spectacle it must have been when Theodore | Ronsevelt stood before the tomb of William the

Hallowed Ground. Atlanta Constitution. Washington Heraid. The Pullman Company calls attention to the fact that "it has not raised its rates in 29 years." Is that a threat? Higrims will soon be on the way to Napoleon's tomb to view the spot where Reosevelt was slient for three minutes by the town clock.

Stlent

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