

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, Aug. 27, 1910.

THE ROOT OF THE TROUBLE.

The Oregonian prints a letter today which is a fair sample of many that come to the office. Written by a man of affairs whose conscience is active and his intelligence keen, it exhibits deep interest in the subject of prohibition.

People who think that opposition to prohibition necessarily implies favor for the saloons might correct their error by looking round the world a little. Nobody on earth desires the welfare of her fellow men more ardently or intelligently than Jane Addams.

It ought to be evident from examples like these that there are many thoughtful people in the world who prefer other remedies for the drink malady than prohibitory legislation.

But the people rule best by the system that enables them to declare their own will and to regulate it by majority vote and law. That system is known as parliamentary representative government.

Generally, the reason ascribed by promoters of new-fangled bills for refusing to take their measures to the Legislature is the real reason why they should be voted to go to the "people."

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Major Higginson believes that "the United States, or a state which grants the use of its water power, may fairly ask for a royalty if it seems worth while to do so."

Major Higginson suggests that capitalists who are willing to invest money in developing water powers be compelled to act promptly, on pain of forfeiture of the grant, and that the state is entitled to "payment of reasonable compensation for the benefit conferred on the people, with periodic readjustment of the rate of compensation, so as to insure justice both to the investor and to the public."

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mental traits of character, but we fear that the latter tasks must be accomplished before we shall ever make much headway against the evils of strong drink. There are some other things that must also be done.

IS PRIMARY LAW TO BE UPHOLD? It is important to note what Senator Bourne says only so far as he voices and embodies the spirit and purposes of a large body of Oregon voters.

He seeks to control and dominate the Republican party, and at the same time repudiates any obligation to do anything whatever for the Republican party. It completes alliances with Democrats, Populists and the dissatisfied and irreconcilable remnants of all parties and of all factions of the party.

The Bourne contingent goes into the Republican party with the openly proclaimed purpose of wrecking the party if any over-zealous candidate should be successful. Yet we are every day bombarded with the false appeal of this same insincere crowd of intriguing politicians, and their self-anointed leaders, to "trust the people" and "keep hands off the primary."

Why think of irrigating 4,000,000 acres of land enjoying an average annual rainfall of 20 to 47 inches? Has it not been a repeated story that crops have never failed in the Willamette Valley, and that the climate is so even that injuries from frost or from drought have never been reported?

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sure remedy for the lack of water in the Summer months, how can it be supplied? Dams in the foothills, say the engineers, will store the Winter overflow for Summer use, and the supply will be abundant for every crop that grows.

The returns? So great that a fair estimate shows figures that it takes courage, even more than faith, to quote. A donation land claim of 640 acres under the old plans had, perhaps, a hundred acres of wheat land and the rest rough pasture.

The vacant lot belongs commonly to an absent owner. He sits at his ease in some distant town and smokes his pipe while the laborer of the people round about his lot raise its value for him.

The wheatgrowers of the Argentine seem to have followed much the same system as that of the American farmer in the Willamette Valley.

Dr. Kimm, representing the Korean insurgents in this country, predicts in an interview that war between Japan and the United States will come within five years.

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Old Man Bennett's Cointare Spoiled by the Printer. PORTLAND, Aug. 25.—(To the Editor.)—I live at Irrigon, where I edit The Daily Oregonian. I also reside at The Dalles, where I edit The Dalles Optimist. And I sometimes stop in Portland, at the Hotel York, where I am at present, spending some money acquired on a sage-brush-dog trade.

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They Kept Forests Free From Inflammable Material. PORTLAND, Aug. 24.—(To the Editor.)—The disastrous timber fires in the past few weeks demand serious consideration, and as the Government has adopted a policy to prevent these fires, I would like to make a few remarks along that line.

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Professor Garner Learns Secrets of Simian Language. Cape Lopez, West Africa, Correspondent of Chicago Tribune. I have just met Professor Richard Garner from a continuous period of seven years devoted to the study of the monkey language.

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WOMAN IN FORESTRY SERVICE. Graduate of Radcliffe to Work for Government in Wisconsin. Boston Post. The distinction which has just come to Miss Gerry is one which, it is said, might well be envied by forestry experts the country over.

Science and Microbes. Harper's Weekly. In 1892 diphtheria destroyed in what is now Greater New York 24,416 lives and 454,000 in 1893. In 1905 the bacteriological laboratory reinforced its microscopic work with the manufacture of diphtheria antitoxin.

Age Brings Authority. Life. One reason why we grow more gentle with age—when we do—is that the more the wisdom of good authority, to whom authority belongs, and the need of veneration is lessened.

Protecting Her Summer Costume. Atchison Globe. Notice—By special ordinance enacted last night the women of Atchison must trim the necks of their dresses with the lace of the kitchen door on which is printed in big letters, "Stop and whistle."

He Notes With Regret. PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 25.—(To the Editor.)—As a reader and subscriber to The Oregonian I note with regret that the article on the liquor question, which you take the stand it does on the liquor question, for it is impossible for me to believe that you do not realize that the liquor question is the most serious of our Nation.

Always Come Back. New York Herald. Unlike pugilists, actresses who get married and leave the stage always come back.

Two Mused Words. Kansas City Star. "Under Socialism" conditions would be so and so, wrote H. L. Menckler, of the Kansas Sun to R. R. La Monte, the Socialist.

Erilest Insurgency. New York Sun. Adam grew philosophic. "If it hadn't been the devil it would have been Uncle Joe," he cried.

Lines to a Rainmaker. O. Hofer, Colonel Hofer. O Hofer, Colonel Hofer. O Hofer, Colonel Hofer. O Hofer, Colonel Hofer.

WHI Help Some. Boston Transcript. We can't stand a billion-dollar country, provided the prospect of a three billion-bushel corn crop is realized.

INVICITES. Out of the night that covers me, Black as the pit from pole to pole, I have beheld that awful darkness, For my unconquerable soul.

INVICITES. In the full clutch of circumstance I have not wined nor cried aloud; Unshaken by the tempests of the years, My head is bloody, but unbowed.