good as dead.

# The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1911.

THE CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAMME. Congress will meet tomorrow for resumption of its short session after the holiday recess; but we do not discover either in the Presidential or the Congressional programme anything to give immediate concern to our friends the weolgrowers, who are about to meet in Portland, chiefly, it would appear, for the purpose of finding out what is going to happen to schedule Nothing will happen until the next Democratic Congress meets. If the wool tariff shall be lowered by Democrats or Republicans, the President will sign the bill. He will sign any bill on any commodity that bids fair to relieve him from his great political blunder of emphatic and unqualified (except as to wool) indorsement of the Payne-Aldrich act.

Mr. Taft's programme includes the passage of an ocean mail subsidy bill to promote the establishment of new steamship lines to South America and the Orient; legislation for the limitation of the issue of injunctions by Federal judges; a large appropriation for the immediate commencement of work on the fortification of the Pansma Canal, and legislation making the present Tariff Board a permanent taron to gather information as a basis for tariff revision one schedule at a time. Some other things the President ardently desires to do before he shall be confronted with a Democratic House of Representatives, but he will probably not go far outside his present limited plan. He will have accomplished much if, after the various appropriation and supply bills are out of the way, these measures shall have been enacted into law.

But the Senate and House will not settle down to work along the lines defined by the President without more or less exciting and diverting excursions into various political and legislative fields. Senator Bristow's resolution for submission of an amendto the Constitution to elect United States Senators by popular vote will be one Bon in the Senate's path that cannot be pacified, or avoided, or Then there is the scandal of the Lorimer election, and there is also the Cummins rule to pave the way for tariff legislation schedule by

In the House the Ballinger report will not down, and it may lead to protracted and fruitless discussion. House rules, too, bother the insurgents, and they may insist on immeflate change in procedure. The Demest in that burning topic since the last

The woolgrowers need not worry, then, about an immediate slashing away at schedule K. Congress will have all it can do without unnecessary and unprofitable controversy over the Besides the Republicans are But wool is going to have the Congress.

### HAILEOAD EARNINGS.

Detailed statistics on railroad operation as presented in a Chicago special dispatch printed in The Oregonian yesterday account in a large degree for the inability of railroad companies to market new securities to advantage in this country. That a gain of \$48,000,000 in the gross earnof the roads for the last half of 1910 should be smothered by an increase of more than \$81,000,000 in perating expenses discloses a situation not at all attractive or pleasing to intending investors. It is not alone the railroads that are interested in this matter. Railroad transportation is a commodity of such general use that the buyer as well as the seller has an interest in maintaining its efficiency. It is obvious that this efficiency cannot be maintained without constant additions to the immense capital that is required to construct, maintain and operate the roads.

The average rates for freight and passenger service en American rali-roads are lower than those of any other country, but with the constant increase in the cost of operation, equipment and maintenance, it seems hardly probable that the necessary capital for new extensions, equipment and other improvements will be available unless there is a corresponding increase in rates. The problem is simply one of "cost of service." ch publicity has been given the matter and Federal investigation and regulation have been so elaborate that there should not be much difficulty in determining exactly what this "cost | of service" amounts to. These figures obtained, the matter of determining swhat is a fair and reasonable return on the investment should not be

difficult. Federal investigations and regulations have been so drastic in recent years that most of the abuses that first caused the investigations have been corrected. The railroads and the people who patronize them have a better understanding. Fairminded patrons of the roads are willing that the several hundred thousand stockholders of the roads shall receive a fair profit on their investment, and the railroads in their chastened spirit seem willing to play fair with gress. the people. Out here in Oregon where the railroads are spending millions very month and have plans for constaning these expanditures for several years, the matter is of exceptional many isolated localities in this state where the people would willingly pay almost any rate if they could only in duce the railroads to build and open

up the country. It is on this class that the ill effects

of a demoralized market for railroad the war, but was a nonentity in hissecurit'es fall heaviest, for there is small hope for marketing securities for new construction at a time when funds for maintenance and equipment of old roads are made unobtainable through expenditure increases out of all proportion to the increases in Whatever may have been the sins of the railroads in the past, the statistics now indicate that the punishment has reached a where the public may suffer along with the original culprits.

#### POSTAL SAVINGS BENEFITS

Postal savings banks will fortify the cause of sound currency and strengthen the foundations of the Government because depositors will insist that they shall get back from the Government banks money whose purchasing power is equal to that of the coin which they put in.

Depositors will also demand that the holder of their money, the Government, shall be protected against foreign foes and domestic agitation. It will be the interest of depositors to see that the seaboard of the Nation shall be fitly defended and that the Government shall have adequate powers of defense and offense in its

distant possessions.

Postal banks will cause depositors to lend their aid to defend the Nation internally against humbug reformers who would grab for themselves and their kind the savings of their thrifty,

industrious fellows. Had the Government been the banker of a million voting citizens in time past, the crazes of greenbackism and free silverism would have been short. Those crazes planned debasement of the Government's currency. They would have flooded the country with cheap money wherewith dishonest persons would have paid their obligations and thus cheated their creditors.

For these reasons, if for no others, the postal savings system will benefit the people and the Government. Moreover, it will teach and promote individual thrift, provide citizens with safe deposit for their savings and supply the Government with funds at cheap rate of interest.

#### OPPORTUNITY FOR ECONOMY.

If Mr. Brandels, who has become famous by his statement that he could save \$300,000,000 per year by a better system of railroad management, should turn his attention to the Government's management or mismanagement of some branches of its service, he might find equal opportunities for economy of a practical nature. One of the most glaring examples of waste of money by the Government is about to be investigated by Congress when action is taken regarding the publication of the "Pilot Chart" "Meteorological Chart." The Weather Bureau, fully equipped for the work, with hundreds of representatives in scaports throughout the world and recipient of reports from thousands of shipmasters sailing every sea, each month issues an elaborate map, accompanied by a wealth of meteorological data and storm warnings. This publication bears the caption: "Meteorological Chart of the North Pacific Ocean" and also bears the information that it is "published by authority of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Simultaneously with the publication of this chart, appears the "Pilot Chart | usual practice is to wait until the susof the North Pacific Ocean" with a caption explaining that it is "prepared from data furnished by the hydroocrats have fost much of their inter- graphic office of the Navy Department, and by the Weather Bureau of the Department of Agriculture." We poetess who wished to know whether are further informed by the caption a certain mushroom was poisonous or that it is "published at the hydrographic office under the authority of the Secretary of the Navy." It might be inferred from the widely different captions that these "charts" were of more than willing to pass the whole an entirely different nature, but as troublesome topic on to the Demo- a matter of fact it would require a microscopic examination to disclose time of its life in the sixty-second any material difference in them or in the information they present.

The absurdity of the Government spending immense sums every year in the duplication of this pilot chart of meteorological chart is so pronounced that a Congressional committee was appointed last session to report on the matter, and at the coming session an effort will be made to eliminate one or the other of the charts. It is not a question of depriving the public of the very useful information which the Weather Bureau has collected and published in the "Meteorological Chart" and handed over to the Navy Department for duplication on the "Pilot Chart." It is simply a matter of eliminating one or the other of the charts, thus saving a large sum of noney which is now being needlessly expended for keeping two sets of officials in positions and issuing two sets of charts bearing the same information.

### LESSONS FOR OUR THEODORE.

Ex-Presidents before our Theodore, uitted the office without deeming themselves summoned to "boss" country. Nearly all of them retired to lighter duties. None of them, so far as now recalled, attempted to turn the country over; and it may be added that none ever hunted lions.

Washington spent the remainder of his life raising tobacco and corn. John Adams went home to Massahusetts and lived in luxury and ease. Thomas Jefferson had no great sur-

plus to live on; he worked in aid of education and died poor.

care. James Monroe was well off. He

served as justice of the peace and made himself generally useful. John Q. Adams went to Congress and made a great flight against slav-He died in the Capitol when a ery.

of July. Andrew Jackson lived a long and busy life at the Hermitage, Tennessee, and died there, never offering to mingle in politics.

Van Ruren never engaged in business, but kept a hand in politics. John Tyler went back to his farm in Virginia. He died while serving as a member of the Confederate Con-

James K. Polk never again mingled with public affairs, though he was planning to do so when he died, Millard Fillmore tried to be again President and was the candidate of the Know Nothings in 1860. He had

an ample fortune.

Franklin Pierce went abroad and lived to be a pro-slavery disunionist. from Tennessee after being President. James Buchanan lived through the insanity of maturity, according in the Court Journal

Chester A. Arthur expected again to practice law, but death came Grant lived to be a candidate for a third term and to be defeated. Hayes retired to private life and to

Cleveland became an educator and publicist Benjamin Harrison resumed prac-

educational work.

So that Colonel Roosevelt has ample precedent for feeling that he is

full of honors and that his fellowcitizens can run their government without his continuous dictation. The Colonel has made a specialty of studying the lives of the ex-Presidents and doubtless knows all the foregoing. The results of the elections last No vember may have reminded him of since that time he has acted more like other ex-Presidents.

#### THE COST TO OREGON.

The State of Oregon had contributed to the Government reclamation fund, up to June 30, 1910, by the sale of public lands within its borders the sum of \$7,860,000. The amount is now said to be approaching \$9,000,-000. The reclamation act was passed in 1902. It contained a provision (section nine) that within ten years 51 per cent of the aggregate amount ntributed by any one state should be expended or appropriated for expenditure on reclamation projects within its borders. It is obvious that the Reclamation Service, under this provision, inserted through the careforesight of Representative Tongue of Oregon, would necessarily have enlarged the scope of its Oregon projects. The only way to avoid compliance with law and the doing of substantial justice to Oregon was to repeal section nine. So section nine was repealed, without a syllable or sign of protest from the two Oregon

Now, in the distribution of the \$45,000,000 fund (\$20,000,000 being appropriated by the special enact-ment) Montana gets \$8,000,000, Idaho \$7,000,000, Wyoming \$6,000,000, and Oregon, which gave more to the fund than any other state except North Dakota, is contemptuously shoved to one side with a petty \$925,000.

Thus we see what it costs Oregon to send to Washington two Senators whose highest conception of their duty is to leave it all to Lodge or Aldrich.

#### PREVENTING INSANITY.

The increasing frequency of insanity has at last awakened the doctors to the desirability of trying to prevent its occurrence. In other terrible maladies, like consumption, prevention has been found a great deal better and easier than cure. We have therefore reverted, so far as they are concerned, to the excellent old Chinese practice of requiring our physicians to keep us well instead of running to them for healing after the disease has stricken the patient.

Prophylactic measures against insanity have been almost undreamed of in modern communities. The most ivilized are as bad as the most barbarous in this respect. And not only do we neglect disastrously to try to prevent our friends and relatives from going crazy, but no very exact method has as yet been invented of telling whether they are sane or not. The pected person has demonstrated his abnormality by killing somebody. Then we set about his cure more or less scientifically. This practice re-sembles the profound wisdom of the After long meditation she decided to eat it and take quences. It might kill her to be sure, but in any event she would have the blessed satisfaction of knowing the

truth about it. Recent students of the subject segregate the insane into three pretty clearly marked classes. There is the insanity of adolescence, that of maturity and that of old age. Of course the last is the most hopeless of all. It arises from the failure of the faculties of the mind. The pitcher having made too many trips to the fountain is at last broken. The wheel is broken at the cistern. The best that can be done for the insanity of old age is to mitigate its miseries by care. warded off, no doubt, in many cases by devoted attention, but it can hardly be cured after it has once fixed upon its victim. Very likely the best way to preserve the waning intelligence of the old is to make their lives as free from worry as possible. to multiply their interests and keep them occupied with duties which seem important even if they are really trivial. The worst possible treatment for grandpa, whose mind has begun to waver a little, is to establish him in an easy chair in the corner and never let him undertake any occupation By all means give the poor man something to do which will take his thoughts off the condition of his brain and stomach.

People who wish to keep their wits in good working order up to the verge of the grave must furnish themselves with a multiplicity of interests. Charles V. said that for every new language he learned he felt himself another man. Knowing half a dozen he was the equal of half a dozen poor wretches who knew but one apiece. Certainly the more subjects a person is interested in the more holds their wits have on sanity. When one anchor slips they have others to throw James Madison had plenty and out and some of them are sure to lived among his books, free from catch and hold. The case of the man who has devoted himself wholly to business to the utter neglect of art, books and play is pitiable when the evil days come and the years draw nigh in which he has no pleasure. Had he remembered not only his Creator but the mental faculties his member of the House on the Fourth | Creator gave him, in the days of his youth, his old age might have been a time of serene and prolonged enjoy ment instead of a period of sordid waiting for dissolution

Saints and sages all agree that old age is in truth the most enviable time of life if we only take measures to get ready for it when we are young. But the taking of these measures also has its dangers. It may bring on that insanity of maturity which is the bane of Americans. This arises from too much work, too much worry, too little play and not enough change, The human machine runs on month after month and year after year at full speed and then on a day when he thinks not the soul who owns it finds himself with a brain that will not work. It begins to rattle and Andrew Johnson became Senator grind. The cogs clash, the levers slip. The only sure prophylactic against

and change. Do something to make yourself laugh, no matter how silly it may be. Play jokes on your friends if you can think of nothing else. Even that is better than to go crazy

and murder them as the man is only too likely to do who never lets up on the everlasting grind of life. "Break the routine at all costs," is the advice of the wise to the toller in store and office. If you have a habit of breaking the routine then break that habit occasionally. Change is the law of life. He that does not change is as

As for the insanity of adolescence

to the latest lights of science, is play

it comes from sowing wild oats. curious to reflect what a variety of crops is usually reaped from that youthful sowing and insanity is one of the most common and least desirable of them. Drink together with the excesses of youth accounts for almost Women half the insanity of males. go crazy for other reasons. Life on the lonely farm with no parcels post to break the dire monotony of the hideous days'is one of them. Bad roads are directly responsible for the lost wits of thousands of farmers' wives. Had it been possible to get away from home and visit the neighbors or attend church all would have been well. But the mud was too deep and the ruts too bottomless so they staid at home all Winter brooding over the kitchen stove and the next Spring they were carted off to the asylum. The pity of these tragedies is that the blow does not fall on the men who are mainly at fault.

The blennial report of the Attorney-General for the State of Alabama asserts that liquor was the cause of 258 out of 630 homicides in that State in the two years ending September 30. while in the previous two years 238 out of 656 killings, were charged to the same cause. The amount of woe, misery and murder that is caused by improper use of liquor is staggering in its immensity, but in order to make fair comparisons between liquor and other influences which prompt murder, it would be necessary to know how many of the more than 600 tragedles were chargeable to other influences. Some day the purveyors of liquor will take due cognizance of these statis tics on murder and insist that their patrons stop short of inebriety. A good many men who are amiable and harmless when sober become quarrelsome and vicious when intoxicated. The profilts on the drinks that place them in that condition hardly repay the liquor men for the odium that is cast on their calling.

Post-mortem news regarding the British steamship St. Denis, which foundered somewhere off that "terri-ble north coast" a few weeks ago, is to the effect that the vessel was overaded to an extent that it was impossible for her to rise under the weight of a big sea. This British Columbia habit of overloading vessels is not a new one. A Vancouver dispatch states that a court of inquiry will be held for the purpose of fixing the blame. Perhaps if some of the authorities at the Canadian seaports would do a little "inquiring" into these matters before the vessels were permitted to depart for sea, the death list would be smaller. The St. Denis was a vessel of 278 tons net register, and, according to Vancouver advices, she left portwith 600 tons of coal, in addition to that which filled her bunkers. taking note of these figures it is not surprising to learn that "she rested low in the water.

It is instructive to remember that the Ohio farmers who sold their votes so freely and frequently were' not They appear "ignorant foreigners." to have been of good old Yankee stock, speaking New England dialect and graduates of the common schools. One of the grandest lessons some of our native sons can learn from the Italian section gangs is how to vote intelligently and honestly

Take the country over except Oregon and look at the balance sheets of all business. Isn't it a matter of ongratulation that financial rewards for 1910 equalled those for 1909? Of course here in Portland, the general average doesn't count. With new blood, new capital, new enterprises and renewed energy the margin of It can profit kept pace with the increased activities.

In 1892, the "Oregon Territory" celebrated the centennial of the dis covery of the Columbia river; in 1905 the Lewis and Clark expedition, and now we are on the eve of commemorating the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Astoria. New as it is in the Nation's annals, still what a historic place the mouth of the Columbia has become!

About the biggest little industrial news in The Oregonian yesterday was an authentic report of a Clackamas County farmer who netted from 172 hens last year. When you consider that Portland consumes a car load of Eastern eggs a day, there is no immediate danger of Oregon overdoing this profitable industry.

It is not agreeable to read that some 500,000 persons in New York city are more or less dependent or charity. If the phenomenal growth of that town means merely the multiplication of paupers it might be well to stop and take breath and think things over. There may be a better way to grow

There is to be no liquor at the forthcoming Portland Jackson Day banquet. Appropriate comment on great renunciation might the made by the Seattle lawyer who is to speak on the topic "If Andrew Jackson Lived Today,"

shows a growth from 2,326 to 4.019 members in the year. Oh, there's no holding of us back now that we've out on our seven-league boots. Jacob Astor centering at Astoria 100 years ago, perhaps a good many of us would be freezing back East today

instead of enjoying the balmy weather of Oregon. Peace as it is conducted now-afays costs Europe a billion and a quarter dollars a year and adds about Bear with me for a moment, this story that sum to the total of public debts

Fighting would be cheaper. It savors of disloyalty when Kaiser Wilhelm has his clothing made in London. Maybe he is retaliating on the Berlin tailors who don't advertise VACCINATION IN SILVERTON CASES

ment Offered That There Is No Virtue in Immunity Measure. PORTLAND, Or., Jan. 1.—(To the Edtor.)-Much stress has been laid upon the unvaccinated condition of some of the small-pox cases at Silverton and I think equal prominence should be given to the vaccinated condition of other of the cases. Three persons traveling in Mexico came in contact with smallpox on a train. One of the three was vaccinated, the other two never had been vaccinated. The vaccinated one took the disease. others escaped until they were shut up in the same house with the vaccinated smallpox case in Then in due time they, together with the Silverton family, came down with is no guessing about who conveyed the infection from Mexico to Silverton. It was the vaccinated woman.

A nurse was put on the case, and she shortly developed smallpox. Ther it was announced that she had never Then been vaccinated until she went to this case—when it was done. If this is so, the health officials must have assured her that this vaccination would pro-But it did not. Then two nurses were sent to the scene of ac both said to be protected by accipation. One of the new nurses ook the disease and then the Poloniuslike press said she had not been vacthat the third nurse was il right. Now we are invaccinated all right. formed by the papers that all three of the nurses have the smallpox. Where does the protection of vaccination Vaccination is said to have saved

the life of the first case, but it was her susceptibility to smallpox that brought it to all the other cases. Those who escape with their lives will be said to have been saved by vaccina-tion, but at least one unvaccinated person besides the unvaccinated nurse has recovered, the child of the Stiver-

The apologists for vaccination will now have to do some more figuring. As William Corbett said of similar screwing and twisting in his day, screwing and twisting in his day,
"Quackery has ever a shuffle left."

K. SHELDON.

Without disputing K. Sheldon's facts we may be permitted to point out a slight flaw in the logic he brings to bear upon them. Let it be candidly n them. Let it be candidly that the vaccinated person was the first to take the smallnox and that he communicated it to the others as K. Sheldon states. Does it follow that vaccination is worse than useless? Not at all. It is one of the primary facts about vaccination that It must be repeated at intervals of a Its virtue is lost in the course of time and unless it is renewed the vaccinated person is no morimmune than the unvaccinated. disposes of the particular in which our correspondent cites. Persons who wish to take a broad and sane view of the matter will not forget that vaccination has virtually banget that vaccination has virtually ban-ished smallpox from those countries where it is rigorously enforced upon the entire population as it is in Ger-many and Denmark. This fact admits of no question and it is decisive of the issue. A properly vaccinated in-dividual is immune to smallpox while one who is not properly vaccinated will take the disease if he is exposed the face of this fact argument is vain. .

#### Equator and Pole.

ANTELOPE, Or., Dec. 28.—(To the Editor.)—I have heard it argued that the equator of the earth was as high as the North Pole; but for my own part can't see through it. Would you please answer in The Oregonian?
FINLAY M'BETH.

Height can be measured only when the base or foot of the thing or things to be measured is given. Strictly speaking, neither the equator nor the North Pole has height. The equator is an imaginary line belting the earth equidistant between the Poles and the name of the point on the earth's surface designating the extremity of the earth's axis. From the center of the earth every direction is up. As the earth is slightly flattened at the Poles the distance from the center to the surface at the equator is greater than the distance from the center to the surface at the North Pole. In this sense the equator may be said to be higher

than the North Pole. When "height" is used as a synonym for "altitude" the measurement is upward from sea level. We are told by Peary that the North Pole is located in the Arctic Ocean. The equator crosses both land and sea and the imaginary line therefore is at times at greater altitude than the Pole.

### A Dangerous Navy.

Newark News. It's a mighty good thing for Brazil under the circumstances that her navy isn't any bigger.

### Asn Carcy and the Bear.

(In Pendleton, at the annual round-up, spectators gasp at the daring of cowboys who ride bucking horses and wild steers. In Curry County riding prowess is along lifferent lines. A true story of the achievement of a Port Orford celebrity has been translated into the appended verse.) But did you hear the story, so strange, yet true as well,

Not one that fancy painted like some folks often tell. But one that's really truthful, and this one that s.
I will declare,
I will declare,
with firmness—Ase

Carey rode a bear. This happened down in Curry, a part of this fair state. Which now seems forging to the front, a coming out, though late, but really I declare,

I quite forgot my story-Ase Carey rode a bear. Ase went and set a bear trap, beneath

a spreading oak.

d trouble then was brewin'-for bruin-this no joke. And from a limb suspended, he placed bill of fare; k he sais 'twas equine, and Asa caught the bear.

He caught him by the hind leg, well up to be secure.

Ase went then to a neighbor's to have a witness sure. The neighbors came and saw him throw a rope, that landed fair.

Around the neck of bruin, and then he snubbed the bear.

In keeping with the progressive Horatlus at the bridge is naught, Therspirit of Portland, the Y. M. C. A. mopylae is tame, s Ursine ride of terror entitles greater fame. Ase stood there like a Spartan, erect, serenely fair, Then bowing to his audience, he calmly

rode the bear. E'en Nolan in the jaws of death on Balaklava's field Must in the final issue the palm of

courage yield;
The world did wonder as it should when death shots filled the air, The jaws of death were e'en bestrode, when Asa rode the bear.

I have told,

There was no tragic end to this that I should here unfold. 'Tis now a part of history, and think it just and fair.
All time should be reckoned from the day Ase roue the bear.

### FOREST SERVICE BLUNDERS AGAIN

Practical Forester Asserts That Public Will Get Sugar-Coated Pill in Plant ing of Southern Oak and Walnut in Northern Burned Areas.

BAKER, Or., Jan. 2.—(To the Editor.), studied for years. What has it given the public that is original and not taken from the ideas of others? Give the public that is original and not taken from the ideas of others? Oregonian. This article was headed "New Red Oak to Be Seeded in Burnt Areas." of the

Such sugar-coated pills for the public demand attention. Let us look at this article more closely. Most certainly the Forest Service has experienced, during the past season, heavy forest fires on the various public forest reserves. Why Not because the season was extremely dry; not because there were too few rangers employed; not because there was too little money to expend, but for the simple reason that men who should have been patroling the forest reserves during 25 years these walnut and red the fire season were assembled in groups and assigned to do various kinds of socalled improvement work (fence building, etc.), against their own belief and pro-test. No wonder then that fires broke out, ran wild for days, and finally got beyond control. Had these faithful, over-worked rangers been allowed to do what the public thought they were doing and what they were supposed to do the loss of many thousands of dollars, millions of circumstances from 40 to 60 years are feet of timber, and the lives of many brave men would never have occurred.

timps

Service with the whim that we must restock these burned-over argas by planting, for the good of the public. Merciful heavens! Who restocked the burns of old and gave us our present timber supply? Who is restocking our present burns successfully today? Nature, and she cannot be improved upon, for forestry has taken its ideas from nature first, last and always. Nature handled the forests long before the Forest Service was ever evolved by the pipe dream of an So like bees swarm the planting ideas in reforming brains and unsophieticated large extent. Are the forest reserves intellects and what on earth happens? Of all ridiculous and blundering ignor- for the timber and not oppress the ance that which follows is the worst, ing man? The service hangs on to ance that which follows is the worst, ing man? The service hangs on to graz-They go away south into Arkansus and ing to keep from going to the poor house. chip north into Oregon, Washington and That's what's the matter. The fundamental and red oak seeds to plant and forest reserves and organizing the Forest restock our burned areas when common-sense, science and any school kid know their wise use-not to burn them up, nor that commercial success can never come from such a venture. Any lumberjack knows that trees taken from a warm dimate and moved so far north and out of their natural range cannot possibly do well. Some may live and grow but they can never be anything commercial trees, especially when per coming, however. The coming, however, the coming, however, the coming, however, the coming, however. The coming, however, the com an never be anything but scrubby non

parison can the Forest Service over hope

Why bother about uncertain gambles inder the ruse of experiment? The Forest Service has experimented and

#### Only Small Percentage of People Knew True Purport of Measure. Harry Park in Brownsville Times

Your statement in last week's Times that the people of Oregon were up against a hard proposition in enacting | bringing about domestic felicity, has writthe constitutional amendment providing for the people of each county to regulate taxation and exemptions withtained the single tax idea, leads one to inquire how many people there are wh really want such a law? It seems that the victous and freak measures voted on at the last election were about the only ones that passed into One is forced to the conclusion that the people want such laws as the home rule law, the liability law and the single tax amendment or they the single tax amendment or they don't know how to vote. It is not likely that there were more than a very small per cent of the people of Oregon that really knew what they were voting for when they voted for the single tax Tts title did not reveal

the real character of the measure.

Why don't the people inform themselves as to the character of what they are voting for or vote no? It is a simple thing to do. I can look back to the November election and recall with satisfaction that I voted "no" 29 times. I can recommend it as an easy way to kill freak legislation. Vote no everything you don't understand,

Perhaps people of Oregon want the single tax. Perhaps they want the land to bear all the burden of taxation and all other forms of property to be exempt. If they do they have got it. exempt. If they do they have got it. Perhaps they want the splendid tide of immigration that has been coming to us in recent years diverted to other Western etates where the crackbrained reformer is unable to get a to us. hearing. Perhaps they want land values to decline as rapidly as they hav risen in the last few years; if so, call in the single-taxer with his unerring monkey-wrench of reform and he will fix things for them. If the profession-ni and habitual reformer would begin by reforming himself he would have less inclination to reform the rest of the planet.

The announcement that U. S. U'Ren has just returned from the East, where he has been in consultation with sin-gle-tax agitators and will begin a campaign to have the single-tax theory adopted into as many counties as poswill cause a long-suffering pub lie to wish that U'Ren had some useful occupation. It is remarkable that a occupation. It is remarkable that a mere man like that can waive aside the accumulated experience of generations' and go into his closet and shut the or and then all unaided and alo with nothing to work with but a dis-ordered brain map out a scheme of axation that will make the other feltaxation that will make the other fel-low pay the taxes, and then practice a shameless deception on the votors by calling it something other than what it really is. The worst wish we have for such a disinterested reform-er is that he might be obliged to lo-cate on a farm and find himself up against the proposition of making a living by physical exercise or starve to death. By the time he had made a suc-cess of his job he would be willing to surrender some of his theory for facts. cess of his job he would be wining to surrender some of his theory for facts. In time he would not be so good looking, but he would know more. Unfortunately for the rest of us, however, such brilliant dreamers usually make their living with their jaw instead of their myselle.

SALEM. Or. Dec. In regard to selling the survey of their myselle. their muscle.

There was a young fellow named Joony,
Who fell deep in love and got moony.
He spent all his cash
On the girl, which was rash.
When she shook him all said, "Now, who's loony?"

lie a little common sense judgment Oregonian. This article was headed "New its immediate practical needs. Faithfully preform duties entrusted—the care of the Nation's timber. Stop bluffing It then goes on to tell that 500 pounds of and get down to business.

Why trot down to Arkansas and bring oak acorns have been shipped from Har-

risburg, Ark., to the district forester at a northern climate when on every hand Portland to be distributed through the we have splendld forcet trees which we Portland to be distributed through the we have splendld forcet trees which we burnt districts of the Northwest. And know will grow and prosper—trees that that in 25 years Oregon will rank as an important producer of commercial walnut and red oak timber.

are indiginous and acclimated which will produce lumber of much greater value than any southern tree could possibly de? than any southern tree could possibly de? As a matter of fact it would be almost impossible to prevent good repro duction of native our burned areas. native seedlings on most

This absurd expenditure of money under the heading of experiment, which on the face of it must fail, appears to be a strategic play into the hands of the public to hide past neglect and blunders. To crown further this masterpiece, the district forester says he believes that in will yield enough timber to make Oregon rank as an important producer of commercial walnut and oak lumber, Could anything be further from the truth? Think of it! Commercial lumber under the most adverse circumstances in 25 years! How absurd! Go to the state mentioned-Arkansas. There we find that Now that the fires have laid waste milons of acres of the forest primeval, up
mps the concience-stricken Porest
ervice with the whim that we must average. Perhaps the service intends to intect a catalpa or an eucalyptus serum into these trees to make them beat out Old Father Time. And so they study on and on, always expecting the public to take the innocent, proffered, sugared pill.

The forest reserves, strictly speaking, are not on a paying basis and never have been. This is contrary to the usual claim and, belief. Thus far, the grazing their wise use-not to burn them up, nor to bottle them up; but to give them to the people who created and still support the Forest Service. Today much money is lost annually on the fores reserves from fire alone than is received the forest from all the grazing fees and other timber sale incomes combined. The forests are neglected for grazing at

man is ready for this reserve timber he will purchase it for a sum far less than what it actually cost to protect it at Govto plant? How many million acres of barren waste will still remain after the Forest Service has put its absurd drop in the empty bucket?

Why bether the forest service ever hope what it actually cost to protect it at Government expense. Wherein, then, is there wisdom in an astringent and narrow-minded policy which prevents the present economic use of millions of feet and the control of the con nbles which can never be fully utilized under The the most liberal methods of management. A PRACTICAL FORESTER.

VOTERS AND SINGLE TAX AMBUSH THUMB RINGS FOR MARRIED MEN New Jersey Woman's Club Wants Sign Required by Law.

The Cupid Wings Club, the Trenton organization composed of women for the purpose of mending broken hearts and ten to Govern support of a bill they have prepared for the coming session of the Legislature. in the county, etc., and which con- providing that every married man be compelled to wear a ring on one thus to show that he has been wedded. T.ils will be one of the first measures to be presented to the Leg'slature next year, and the members of the club will lobby

for its passage.

The bill provides that every man in the State of New Jersey who is married wear what will be known as a "thumb ring." Married men, if the law goes into effect, will have to wear their rings at all times while outside their own homes and a penalty of two years in state prison and a fine of \$500 is provided for failure to live up to the provisions of the Jewelers are aiding the Cupid Wings Club in its endeavors to have the meas-ure passed, and some of them have made odels of what they believe will be ap-

propriate. Mrs. Charles Howell, the president of the club, drew the bill, with the assist-ance of an attorney. She says that a married man should be as easily identified as a married woman. In speaking of the movement today Mrs. Howell said; "If we succeed in getting this bill passed. as we hope we will, there must neces-sarily be a sister bill passed, compelling married women to wear rings. A great many homes have been made unhappy, we have found, by husbands posing as single men and making love to others than their wives. Several cases where young girls have suffered by falling in love with married men whom they believed to be single have been reported

## Co-Operation is Appreciated.

SALEM. Or., Dec. 21.—(To the Editor.)—During my administration as Superintendent of Public Instruction, I have endeavored to create in the minds of the people of this state a desire for better school conditions, and have striven at each session of the Legis-lature, for the enactment of such laws as would raise the standard and effi-ciency of our public schools. In this work I feel that I have, at

all times, received the support of The Oregonian both in its news and editor-tal columns, and I take this opportunity to thank The Oregonian for generous support. I assure you I have appreciated its co-operation more than I can say.

J. H. ACKERMAN. I can say.

J. H. ACREAL
Supt. Public Instruction.

### Compulsory School Attendance.

HILLSBORO, Or., Dec. 30.—(To the Elitor.)—Can a child of 12 or 13 be allowed to quit school for good providing he has passed the eighth grade? Please answer in The Oregonian. CONSTANT READER.

In districts where the school population is 1000 or more attendance at school is compulsory on all children between the ages of 8 and 14 years, inclusive. In districts having a school population of less than 1990 and more than 200, attendance is compulsory between the ages of

### Sale of Liquor to Indians.

SALEM. Or., Dec. 20.—(To the Editor.)— In regard to selling liquor to Indians, what is the ruling of the Supreme Court? Can you sell to Indians off the reservation who have become citizens' J. M. WILKINSON.

An Oregon statute prohibits the sale of liquor to such Indians. It is permitted in some states, as the Federal laws do