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# The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22.

SUGAR AND THE DEMOCRATS.

Should the Democrats decide to undertake some little revision of the tariff at the special session, it may embarrass them to select a schedule to operate on first. There are so many duties crying for reduction that there will be a natural temptation to strike at all of them and end the matter with one tremendous slaughter, but any such attempt would be self-destruc-tive. Caligula wished the Romans had only one neck amongst them. He could then behead the whole people by one blow of the axe. But insane as the monster was, he knew that his plous aspiration never could be real-ized. The tariff has as many necks as the Romans, and however pleasant it would be to behold them all bleeding at the same time, the most we can really expect is to see two or three subjected to the knife. Which shall they bo? Why not take augar to begin Not only is the duty on that article of food wholly indefensible in itself, but it has acquired intolerable flum by sheltering one of the most abominable of the trusts.

The sugar trust has long enjoyed special favors from the Government, while it has systematically robbed the hand that fed it. While it was gathering a rich annual harvest from the protective duties on its product, it was bribing the employes at the Custom-House to betray their country. Just how much money the sugar trust stole from the Government in this way will never be known. Millions have been overed from it in the way of fines and penalties since the exposure, but urse there were milliwhich no trace exists. It is said that the plunder at New York was but part of its gleanings. A pretty penny was stored up by the thrifty trust at Bos-ton, another at New Orleans, and so on. If the accounts are true, wherever the sugar trust had duties to pay it inaugurated a system of hibery. At Washington it lobbled unblushingly for protective duties. At the ports of entry it lauished bribes to evade them. But the kindly Government continued its favors with most Christian pa-When the augur trust took away its cloak it made haste to be stow its coat also. There never has been such an edifying example of turning the other cheek as Congress has afforded in its conduct toward the sugar trust. To many persons it seems as if it were almost time to cease applying the precept to return a kiss for a blow and begin to handle the meanligation to shower privileges upon a deserves all properation which has broken every and consideration. law that stood in its way?

When the Spanish War was over it was discovered that the sugar trust had used our intervention in Cuba to grab the best lands in the Island. While the soldlers and the fleet were fighting the battles of their country the diligent augar trust was acquir-ing real estate. When the mysterious transaction in the friar lands of the Philippines was finished it transpired to the amazement of the American people that the sugar trust had obtained title in some inexplicable way to the richest of them at a price which looked very moderate indeed. There was a law forbidding any corporation to hold more than 2500 acres in the Philippines, but to the sugar trust all laws look alike, and this one did not hinder it from grabbing and owning hundreds of thousands of acres. When one hears pathetic speeches to the effect that lowering the sugar duties will ruin the industry in the Philippines. his grief may be mitigated by remembering that sugar in the Philippines, precisely as in the United States, means the sugar trust. Why should the American people tax their food to heap up riches for this swinish crim-

The sugar duties do not add a penny to the price of sugar, so far as the proconsumer to pay more for his food. but the increase goes to the trust, not to the individual grower of cane or Since the trust owns the refir eries, it can fix its own prices in both directions, paying to the grower the bare cost of production and exterting from the consumer the last penny which the duty enables it to pile upon the natural price. According to a moderate estimate the removal of the duties would cause the retail price of sugar to fall about one-third. The sunds of granulated sugar for a dollar instead of twenty or less as he does now. When we remember that the annual consumption in the United States is more than 7,000,000,000 pounds, the saving is seen to be considerable. The removal of the sugar duties would mean a decrease of more than \$100,-800,000 annually in the cost of living. To people who find the struggle for existence increasingly severe this is no would injure no creature under heaven but the trust, and even that ungainly fowl would not be wounded beyond re On the other hand it benefit ninety millions of people. opportunity of striking at it must look inviting to the Democrats.

The death of Judge J. R. Lewis. formerly Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Washington State, and an active participant in the formative era of that state, took place at Los Angeles, Cal., last Sunday. His name and paign, the accession to the Presidency of General Grant and many of the in-cidents of the stirring political and

his death. The most noted period of his political activities was contemporaneous for some years with that of the late Judge Williams of this city. Judge Lewis' death removes one of the few appointees of President Grant -political or judicial-who "by reaof strength" survived to the present day.

MAYOR SIMON'S RETIREMENT.

Mr. Simon will retire from the Mayoralty of Portland with a notable record of achievement for his administration. He has given two years of the most painstaking and conscien-tions service to the public. He has worked all the time at the job. He has not spared himself nor his pri-He vate interests and personal inclina-tions in the endeavor to do his full duty. He entered the office reluctantly and he retires cheerfully and volintarily. He thinks more ought not to be demanded of him by the public at this time. He rests on his laurels as a capable and thorough city ad-

There were flaws here and there, undoubtedly, in the Simon administra-tion. One finds fault with this particular feature or policy, another with something else. The public is an exacting taskmaster. It is not very generous in its commendation, nor always criminating in its judgments.

Statistics as to the material improvements that have been energetically pushed by Mayor Simon, such as street paving, water main construc-tion, bridge-building, sewer-digging. garbage-burning and the like, do not appeal to the imagination. Yet we see them all around us all the time. They are the monuments of a successful business administration of the city's affairs. Does the city want any other

#### GRANT THIS FRANCHISE.

No cltimen of Portland will be disposed to deny that competition in the supply of electric lighting and power for public and private uses is a good thing. Nor will anyone say that Narure was unkind when it bestowed on the country about Portland waterpower sites of permanent volume and accessibility. It was not intended, so we assume, that they should be dedated forever to the scenic furniture of Oregon.

Now comes the Mount Hood Rail-way & Power Company and lays its plans to build a railroad from Portand to Mount Hood and to utilize the waters of the Sandy so as to bring light and power to Portland. Construction of the railroad is well under way; the power plant on the Sandy will be completed in October; and an auxiliary steam plant at St. Johns will be ready for operation before May 1. The company is asking the city for a transmission franchise so as to distribite light and power throughout the city. usual preliminaries of discussion and revision by the Council and of valuation by the Executive Board; and today it comes up again before the Council for final action.

The ordinance should be passed without delay. The company has agreed to every condition made by the city and has undertaken to pay a fair gross earnings tax-2% per cent. Nothing has been left undone, so far as can now be foreseen, that is designed to protect and safeguard the city. On the company's side it has city. already made heavy expenditures here in development of its properties and it has otherwise demonstrated its good faith, and its financial responsiest of the trusts a little roughly. Is bility. It is an enterprise of the high-the Government under any especial ob-est importance to Portland, and it proper encouragement

## THEN AND NOW.

The arrival of scores of colonists in this city thus early in the Spring re-calls the old-time arrival of intending court decision defining the rights of settlers in the beautiful valley of the Willamette in the late Autumns of far away years. These homeseekers come to a modern, wideawake, progreesive city three or four days from their homes in the Mississippi Valley, a little tired of the rumble of travel. but otherwise ready at once to engage agriculture, horticulture, dairying or whatever vocation they are fitted Stepping off the train in the Union Depot, they are met by representatives of commercial bodies who are ready with information that is of special value to the stranger, and in a few hours they have chosen a spot investigation and are again on their way full of hope and promise Those of the former era came drag-

ging into the Willamette Valley late the Fall after a journey of six months' duration, often beset by danger and privation. Halting their foot-sore oxen and battered wagons in the atreet of Oregon City, or Salem, or awaiting in Portland the arrival of what little they possessed by flat boat from the Cascades, they were literally stranded, not knowing which way to turn or what to do. There was ally no one to advise them. The few who had preceded them knew little of nothing about the country beyond the line of their immediate vision; Winter was at hand and shelter-even the shelter of the traditional log cabin was hard to find. Not a few of them had left the graves of husband, wife children by the dreary roadside, and it was difficult under such conditions to set up even temporary homes. But a mild climate conduced to their mfort; such work as was to be had was cheerfully undertaken, and after a struggle of a few years stout hearts won and the foundations of the state to which these later immigrants now come were laid deep and strong.

The contrast between the arrival of the early settlers and those who are w coming is indeed marked. It is the contrast between traction by oxen by steam; between a straggling village, the few streets of which wound and out among fire-blackened stumps and fallen trunks of great and an opulent city with miles of hard-surfaced streets stretching out every direction between the halting of tired oxen and battered wagons in bloomin forlors streets or by the roadside, and exhibits. stepping from well-appointed tourist ars into a clean, airy, well-lighted go," though all the beautiful wilderness lay before them, and "somewhere to go" where opportunity invites and neighbors abound; between tallow candles and electric lights; the camp fire with its flaring lights, uncertain and weird shadows and the glow of

the genial hearthstone. Dear to memory is the old, old time judicial times between 1880 and 1875, and big with promise; great in A fearless and aggressive man, he achievement is the present, abounding "lost out" in politics to the faction in fulfillment and grand with still that opposed him, and since 1822 had greater promise. Then we had the clibers a resident of California. Judge mate and the land and a "states" mail"

Lewis was 82 years old at the time of once in two weeks. The climate and the land we still have and in addition thereto mail delivery every few hours, a well-established and ever-widening market with development of resources rising to meet it. Cities with all modern appliances in sanitation and in trade; cosy villages and thriving rural communities, served by electric rail-ways and free delivery of daily mails; railway trains speeding to and from scross the continent to supply the donands of our commerce and trade and ver all opportunity beckoning, ever beckening schools and social activities, contentment and prosperity.

"Then" is softly shrouded in a halo of romance; "now" is gilded by glowing reality

OUR WASHINGTON PRIENDS.

The people of Southwestern Washington are justly indignant over the defeat of their effort to secure good roads through a region where the topography of the country is such that road improvement is vitally necessary to the development of their re-sources. This latest slap administered to Southwestern Washington by the Puget Sound interests is not, however, the principal reason for the increased friendliness shown Portland. When the territory of Washington was carved out of "Old Oregon," nearly all people in the southwestern portion of the new territory continued to maintain their business and social relations with the parent state. These people had always transacted their ousiness in Portland and this city had always regarded them as entitled to the same courtesies and assistance

the same courtesies and assistance that were extended to any of our neighbors on this side of the river. Portland loaned her dredges and worked hand and glove with Vancouver in securing an increased depth of water from the mouth of the Columbia to Vancouver docks. When the Government was slow about improving the Cowlitz River so that steamboats could ascend it, private funds were secured in Portland, and not in Seattle, to aid in the work. Portland has for the past five years been enguged in exploiting the resources, not lone of Oregon, but of all that portion of Washington that is directly tributary to this city. In the East, the stranger hears first of Seattle, then ncidentally of the State of Washing-on. In the East one hears first of regon, then incidentally of Portland. This is satisfactory to Portland and to the people with whom we do busisess. A man can secure more accurate and reliable information about South vestern Washington and its resources at any of the Portland commercia organizations than he can secure any-where in the State of Washington. takes great pleasure in cir-

ulating this information. It is for this reason that Portland has a stronger hold than Scattle ever will have on the affections of South-western Washington. But even the fact that these people have never yet been offered any good reason transferring their trade from Portland to Puget Sound does not warrant the treatment that they received on the road matter. The people of Southwestern Washington pay their proportion of the state taxes, and by reason of the superiority of their resources over those of some other localities in the state their contribution to the state government is a large one. This should entitle them to consideration in such matters as the state road which was asked for at the

last session of the Legislature.

If Puget Sound ever expected to win
any business away from Portland in a territory so situated as the Southwestern counties a very poor method was selected for obtaining it.

WOMEN AND WORK IN THE FIELDS.

The women of Nebraska who have organized against doing field and husband and wife relative to work on the farm, are on the right track. Farm work, including milking, plowing, feeding and work in the harvest field, is entirely outside "woman's sphere. No woman, especially no child-bearing yoman, can do this kind of work with justice to herself, her children and her The man who exacts or even permits it has not progressed beyond the type of dullard depicted by Millet's picture, "The Man With the Hoe."

That there are some kinds of outdoor work that are healthful for women is true. Light gardening, bee-keeping in season, poultry-raising when equipment is provided and work in small fruits (excepting strawberries, which requires too much stooping) are among vocations which omen may follow to a reasonable extent in connection with their house cork when physically able, not only without detriment to their health, but as a relief from the treadmili of housework. But the heavier work of the farm should be left to men as a suitable and equitable division of

# A BADGE FOR SOTS.

From the point of view of the saloonkeeper there is decided merit in the proposed Walla Walla ordinance to compel drunkards to wear a special badge or button. The button would bear a legend reading "I am a sot," or perhaps, "I am an habitual drunkard, beware of me," or something to that purport. As soon as a man thus decorated entered a saloon the barkeeper would recognize his failing and decline to sell him liquor as the law require Unbranded, the habitual drunkard often looks a good deal like other men so that it is difficult for the barkeeper to detect him. The poor merchant of firewater is thus unwittingly betrayed into breaking the laws of his country. But from the drunkard's point of

view objections to the new ordinar may early be conjured up. He might argue, for example, that since he is produced by the barkceper, that functionary ought to recognize him without much trouble. The creator should know his own handiwork without affixing a badge to it other than the blooming nose which it naturally

The sot unavoidably carries about with him a number of marks which seem to indicate his character pretty decisively. The red nose, the blear eye, the trembling hand, the thick tongue, why should the barkeeper fail to interpret these signs as other people do? Again, what would be the effect of the button, badge or label upon the drunkard's character? Would it increase or diminish his self respect? This is an important question, self-respect is the lever by which he must be raised from the slough where he wallows if he is raised at all. Kill self-respect and to all intents you kill the man. A brute in human form may precinct manager yesterday.

remain, but the spark of the divine is ONE LOUD VOICE FROM TILLAMOOK FAULTS OF THE PAVING SYSTEM

Should the city fathers of Walls Walla conclude after due reflection that the proposed button might de-grade the wearer and lessen his chances of resuming upright conduct, they might hesitate to pass the new ordinance, no matter how desirable it may appear to the saloonkeepers. Their interest is important, of course, atill there are others worth some little

Councilman Burgard must be a hu morist. In declining to vote for an increase in salary for city officials who had not even threatened to resign if they falled to get the advance, Burgard said that he "must know before voting for any more raises where the money to pay the salaries is com-ing from." Can it be possible that Mr. Burgard has misinterpreted the scowis which are worn by the taxpayers as they view the attenuated purse which now holds nothing but a receipt? The money for the increases, Mr. Burgard, is paid by the taxpayers who just at present are so overbur-dened with wealth that they would welcome a chance to get rid of it in any old way that a Councilman might Mr. Burgard, with his German thrift and business qualifications, has made a success in his own work. but it is positively funny to think of a entering the City Council, and displaying any anxiety as to the money is coming from before he is willing to give it away.

The art of robbing the people and making them think they like it has mproved materially since Robin Hood and his merrie men kept the sheriff of Nottingham hot-footing it along the blind trails of old England. We note for instance, in a London cable of March 19, that "as a result of an agreement between the prominent hotels, the only terms on which patrons will be accepted are that they must take apartments for the whole month of June, at full season prices, with double prices during coronation week." All other highwaymen who grovel, cajole or threaten the stranger for tips in London are preparing to reap a great harvest in June. Landon Mail estimates that Americans in London for the coronation will spend an aggregate of \$25,000,000 A comparatively small portion of this will be for services rendered, and the remainder will be graft wrung from them by schemes of high and low

McMinnville, the shire town of old Yamhill, is rising to meet the demands that growth and responsibility have placed upon it. A bond issue of \$70,000 has been voted by its citizens for the improvement of the city's wa-ter system within the proposed streetpaving district. This insures the paving of fifty blocks this year in the district covered. Property-owners of that thriving little city have evidently learned from observation the lesson that the citizens of much more pre-tentious cities had to learn from experience—that is, to precede the lay-ing of hard-surface pavements by laying of water mains and installing servpipes. The old adage which asserts that "experience teaches a dear school" is well supplemented by the statement that "fools will learn at no other." McMinville has clearly taken tutelage in the "other" school-the school of observation.

If Mr. Munly had been better acquainted with the reputation of Captain Crowe who resigned from the new Port of Portland Commission, he would hardly have intimated that any-one either "higher up" or "lower down" had "intimidated" the resigning member of the commission. The only intimidation that Captain Crowe ever knew anything about, was the kind he used when he was transforming green land-lubbers into the kind of sallors which enabled his ship to capture more world's speed records than were held by any other ship that ever sailed Whatever the motive that the seas. Whatever the motive that prompted Captain Crowe to resign, it hardly probable that either threats or intimidation cut much figure.

The colonists flocking to these enchanting shores must pass through Portland of course. This makes it seem as if the immigrants were merely making the plethoric city still more plethoric. But that is a mere illusion. They are on the way to green fields and fertile vales which they will make greener and more fertile by their in-Oregon needs men of muscle to till her soil and, to all appearances, she is getting them.

The principal use of warships more than ten years old is to be shot to pieces by new ones. What will be the principal use of the new ones ten years from now? To be shot to pleces from airships, perhaps. The swivel-chair agitators at home

who arouse us with their wish that we-not they-should fight Japan, have at last fallen asleep through ex-

never miss the digits when his mate stands by.

It is said a Washington County man left an estate worth \$85,000, made in growing horseradish, and he did not grate turnip into it, Those foreign-born miners march-

ing armed in the Illinois town need to be "maneuvered" more than the rebellious Mexicans. The "warning to parents" left by

the young Californian who committed suicide means not to "spare the rod." Mr. Lafferty's troubles have fairly begun, with three men wanting the

Hood River postoffice. Another rich discovery in Washoe will divert the restless, if no other

If Crane crowds Bourne from the

postoffice committee, Massachusetts gets it anyway. The best pension for a city employe s a few dollars banked by each every

Mr. Simon has clarified the political Let the best man step lively.

The "Rosenfelt" reception commites seems, somehow, to be incomplete. Mr. Rockefeller showed his skill as

Why Did the Governor Veto Some Bills, Approving Others?

Tillamook Headlight. We will again refer to some of the appropriations made by the anti-assembly and most extravagant State Legislature, and which had the approval of the Governor. It was wrong in his eyes to give Tillamook County \$1500, to be need for two county fairs, yet the "Tax Eaters" secured \$9000 to prove streets in the neighborhood the Agricultural College at Corval-, besides the large sums of \$140,000 for additional maintenance and \$270,000 for new buildings for the Agricultural College. The "Tax Eaters" at Salem, besides the enormous appropriations for the state institutions at that place, succeeded in railroading a bill for \$150,000 for an annex to the State Capttol. The "Tax Eaters," besides se-curing \$328,252.98 for maintenance of the University of Oregon, managed to work another \$175,000 out of the tax-payers for a new library building at Eugene, and the "Tax Eaters" got \$40,-00 for a dormitory at Monmouth

All of which Governor West ap-proved, as he did \$50,000 for Astoria centennial celebration, but when Til-lamook County was wanting to cele-brate the coming of the iron horse and the hardy sons of tell want to exhibit what they have accomplished in this what they have accomplished in this bottled-up country, the Governor put a quietus on it and vetoed the small ap-propriation that this county was justly entitled to. Another thing, Governor West vetoed all the good roads bills prepared by the Oregon Good Roads Association.

It will be readily seen that the "Tax Baters" can pull the legs of the taxpayers for large appropriations for the State University, the Agricultural Col-lege and Normal School, but anything that will help the farmers in giving good roads, the Governor had to in and throw overboard the ef-of those who had devoted much time to boosting for good roads.

#### ICE-BATH FROM MAYOR GAYNOR Socialist Who Wished a Debate Is Made Sadder and Wiser Man.

Chicago Evening Post. Mayor Gaynor continues to lighten up the administrative grind in New "York with his felicitous letters. It is a little art which he alone seems to posess and which serves admirably to bind public confidence and interest to His message to the New York of Aldermen explaining the him. His message to the New York Board of Aldermen explaining the meaning of the red flag of the socialists and insisting that they should be permitted to carry it in their parades as their symbol of men's blood-fraternity, evoked a most interesting discussion of a matter that is too often left wholly to the discretion of the bull-necked policeman. That message naturally tickled the socialists immensely, and one of them rashly seized the moment to challenge the Mayor to a joint debate upon the gospel of Marx. That challenge drew upon the unlucky That challenge drew upon the unlucky

mealot the following reply:

"Dear Sir: Your letter châllenging me to a debate with you on socialism is at hand. The mere fact that you make the challenge is probably proof positive that you are not fit to make such a labour. Pacula who want to force. People who want to things down the mental throats of oththings down the mental throats of others do their own cause more harm than good. Did you ever read that part of Benjamin Franklin's autobiography in which he says that experience had taught him that the way to convince another is to state your case moderately and accurately, and then scratch your head or shake it a little, and say your head or shake it a little, and say that that is the way it seems to you, but that of course you may be mistaken about it; which causes your listener to receive what you say and, as like as not, turn about and try to convince you of it, since you are in doubt; but if you go at him with a tone of positiveness and arrogance you only make an opponent of him? I write this to you in the hope that it may make you stop long enough to think that possibly you are not so infallible as you think you are. Tou compliment me because I know the meaning of the red flag of the socialists, and stated it in my message to the Board of Aldermen. It is just possible that I have done more to make the people of New terms. that possibly you are not so infallible as you think you are. You compliment me because I know the meaning of the red flag of the socialists, and stated it in my message to the Board of Aldermen. It is just possible that I have done more to make the people of New York understand the meaning of your red flag and of socialism than all that you have ever said with a stridulent voice. If you wish to be a teacher, just read the passage I have mentioned from the read the passage I have mentioned the read the passage I have mentioned the read the passage I have mentioned the read the passage I have about as much of the interest of the people as the eloquence of Demosthenes had on the waves of the sea. Of what use will have about as much of the interest of the people as the eloquence of Demosthenes had on the waves of the passage in the read the passage in the read the read the read the read the passage in the read voice. If you wish to be a teacher, Just read the passage I have mentioned from Franklin, and cool off a whole lot. Sin-cercly yours, W. J. GAYNOR, Mayor" This is of a piece with the stole phiwhich the Mayor has introluced into Gotham.

## Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian March 22, 1861.
Some months since we heard the painful tale of the murder and outrages of the Indians upon a party of emigrants on Snake River last Fall.
Last Fall we were told of expeditions in contemplation to rescue the children and to punish the Indians. Latterly we hear of no military move. terly we hear of no military move-ments in the direction of these savages. Why is this? The command of our troops has been taken from an officer in whom we have confidence. He is now a subaltern to an officer in California. It may suit that officer to take some measures in this matter—and it may not. Our people are dissatisfied with this condition of things.

The machinery for the new steam ferry to ply between Rockland and The Dalles is approaching completion in the machine shop of Monnastes, in

An artificial paw has been made for a Denver monkey, and if he can be taught to use a fine comb he will never miss the distance of the comb he will never St. Louis, Feb. 27 .- The United States

The Corvallis Union has an account of some Republicans in Benton County raising a flag with 17 stars on the 4th of March. The Union does not vouch for the truth of the report. If it is so everyone of them deserves a genteel whaling. They are perhaps recent converts, like some we could name in this neighborhood, who, after having served an apprenticeship with disunion Democracy, are now trying to ring in on the Republicans, and who ring in on the Republicans, and who are capable of anything from fobbing an appropriation on "contingents" to leaving their country's flag. Out on such Republicans. Knaves! Knaves! One and all.

Farmers having good cayuse horses them this Spring at paying prices. We look to see a large number of Cali-fornia miners fitting out for the North here, and there will be some even from British Columbia.

## G. H. Hamilton Not Candidate.

PORTLAND, March 20.—(To the Editor.)—I notice in The Oregonian of this tor.)—I notice in The Oregonian of this date an article in regard to the recall of Councilman Ellis, of the Tenth Ward, in which it is said that there are a number of aspirants for his office. Among a number of names mentioned as possible candidates is that of the writer. I wish to state that any active interest which I may have displayed for the benefit of the Woodlawn Improvement Association and our community, or the little good, if any, that I may have accomplished, is nothing more than any citizen should do and still not have "an ax to grind." I wish to say that I am not an aspirant for any political office. I am no politician and therefore have no ax to grind for myself. grind for myself.

Supporter of Ellis Amendment Names Wrongs as He Sees Them.

PORTLAND, March 20 .- (To the Edtor.)-The proposed Ellis amendment to the city charter providing for com petition in street paving is an excellent measure and should be ordered placed upon the ballot by the Council in its initial form. Patented pave-ments and collusive bidding on street improvements is a municipal wrong. improvements is a municipal wrong, that should not be tolerated. And if tion of good streets is a broad one, and a subject for wide discussion, hence without going deep into the subject I wish to point out some of the objectionable features of the present

 A petition is prepared by a paid agent of the paving concern, for a par-ticular kind of pavement, a few names are secured proceedings are begun, the Council orders the improvement, the contract is let to the sole and only

city to properly maintain graveled streets for stated periods after specif-ically agreeing to do so is a direct violation of the contract and a breach of good faith with the property owners to whom the cost of the street was

(3) Our present charter requires 30 per cent of the property affected by an improvement proceeding to successfully remonstrate. This is an outrage. The property owners must pay for the street, and a majority of them and not a City Council, should say what is to be done with their money.

(4) The charge of 5 per cent engineering fees additional to the cost of all street improvement work, notwith-

all street improvement work, notwith-standing the salary of engineers is provided by general taxation, is levied against the cost of all street improve ments without regard to character cost. No more time or engineering skill is required on a high-priced, hard-surface street than on a macadam street, but the property is assessed 5 per cent on the cost of the high-priced street which is unbusinesslike and ab-

Again, who is it that subjects streets to the hardest usages? Is it the individual property owner, who pay for the improvement? Certainly not It is the transporting wagons, wearlin, out streets for the benefit of the gen eral public. Municipal maintenance of streets, after they are once improved by the property owner, is the system in vogue in many of our progressive

The Ellis amendment, if it becomes a law, will cure some of the defects of our present charter and is a right M. J. HARRAHAN.

#### CONVENTION SYSTEM INDORSED. Power to Select Candidates now Abdiented, Says Writer.

SALEM, Or., March 20 -(To the Editor.) The assembly idea will not down. The ommon sense of combination will yet retume its sway in politics, as well as in its almost twin of business.

Here is "Rainmaker" Hefer in The Oregonian of St. Patrick's day, proposing an assembly, or at least a "near" assembly, to make a Republican plat-form, and he it was who only last Summer was denouncing assembly in any "Reminiscences," by the late Dr. form. Lane County is heard from, too, Goldwin Smith, and edited by Arnold The very next day after the appearance of the Hofer plan, an assembly, to be known and halied as "The Lane County Taxpayers' Association," was born, with a purpose to scrutinize affairs of county and state in the interest of those who furnish the money. A few more legislative assemblies produced by the present system will call many such organizations

Haliain, is of marked historical and worth the 31 charged for it. The book also reflects its author's love of controversy, and his life in Toronto, in which city he died in June, 1910, are of special interest.

Mrs. Elliner Glyn, who wrote the unsystem will call many such organizations into existence, and the anti-assembly, self-nominating candidate system will die of auto-intoxication.

The Hofer plan of an assembly to

select their candidates, but they allowed that prerogative to be debauched by a lot of corrupt men, some of whom are today loudest of all in their professions of political holiness and in denunciation of the system they themselves most befored. convention system had an opports

By the direct primary system the people have abdicated part, if not all, of their power to select their own candi-dates. Whereas formerly it was possible or them to seek the man for the office, they must now perforce choose from among the self-seekers who thrust them-selves upon the electorate at 5 cents per name. It is generally reduced to a poice between evils. The quality of such candidates is reflected in freak laws and public extravagance.

The fundamental difficulty has always

een to get the people to take part in ally the chief political activity has been in the personal interest of some popular but often incompetent office-weeker. The people are slowly learning that if they would have good government they must organize, get together, consult, hold conventions and be not content with the mere empty platitudes of platforms, but carefully select their own candidates for their fitness to carry out the principles of those platforms. The people need men as well as measures. They cannot accomplish much so long as they are kept apart by the secret schemes of the Oregon City funta with its soft soap fund. A compact minority and a gumshoe campaign will always defeat a disorganized majority.

The convention system affords the most practical means for the people to get tocould have good government they must

practical means for the people to get to-gether by their representatives to congether by their representatives to con-sult in the open for the common good. It is a political appliance of great power. The people ought to avail themselves of it and not let it go to waste or fall into the control of corruptionists A. B. CELT.

When Mental Effort Is Mechanical. PORTLAND, March 10,-(To the Editor.)—A claims that to add, multiply or divide is a mechanical process.

B claims that as it requires a mental effort to add, multiply or divide, the process is not mechanical.

Which is correct?

A. READER.

Simple mathematical computations, when frequently employed, become largely mechanical. In adding eight and six, for example, one automatically knows that 14 is the result, and does not have to reason it out.

## Ages of French Academicians

Westminster Gazette.

Bern in 1864, M. Henri de Regnier, the Symbolist poet and novelist, one of the new French academicians, is among the number of names menlie candidates is that of
wish to state that any
which I may have disbenefit of the Woodent Association and our
the little good, if any,
accomplished, is nothany citzen should do
ve "an ax to grind." I
I I am not an aspirant
I office, I am no polirefere have no ax to
f.
G. H. HAMILTON.

Twenty members of the Academy. The
youngest members of the Academy. The
youngest of all is still M. Rostand, who
is four years M. de Regaler's junior and
had the rare distinction of being elected
an Academician when he was only 34.
The dozen of the Academy is Napoleon's
old War Minister, M. Emile Oliver, who
is 51 and still actively writing. Menieres is 54. and M. de Freychet, a
former French Premier, 39. M. Thureau
land, and M. Jules Charette, the director of the Comedie Francaise, II. M.
Anatole France is 56. Plerre Lott five
years younger, and M. Paul Bourget 58.



ATE DOUGLAS WIGGIN, who in pri-N vate life is Mrs. George C. Riggs, has given us many readable stories, the chief among which are "A Cathedral Court-ship," "Rose O' the River," "Timothy's this amendment is placed upon the bal-lot in June, the people will settle this question and settle it right. The ques-tion of good streets is a broad are well informed people know, the author of the last-named story is Alice Hegan Rice who also wrote "Lovey Mary" and "Mr. Opp." Autograph seekers often be-gin their requests in this fashlon: "Dear Miss Wiggins—Will you kindly send me your autograph? I should prefer a quotation from Rehecca or Mrs.

Vigga."
London is no better informed than New the Council orders the improvement, the contract is let to the sole and only bidder for a patented pavement.

(2) Negligence on the part of the city to properly maintain graveled streets for stated periods after specifically agreeing to do so is a direct violation of the contract and a breach of good faith with the property owners to whom the cost of the street was assessed.

(3) Our present charter requires 80 per cent of the property affected by an improvement proceeding to successfully remonstrate. This, is an outrage. The property owners must pay for the street, and a majority of them and not a City Council, should say what is to be done with their money.

London is no better informed than New York, at a luncheon given to Mrs. Wiggin, in better informed than New York, at a luncheon given to Mrs. Wiggin, in which the oration evinced that she was perfectly conversant with Mrs. Wiggin's literary work, she said: "And last but not least we must thank her for 'Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch!" At another London dinner the guests also insisted that Kate Douglas Wiggin required for the street, and a majority of them and not a City Council, should say what is to be done with their money. later. "but it would be of no use! I have my tombstone carved during my lifetime they will put an 's' on Wiggin and a double 's' on Douglas. If there is room at the bottom they will probably add: 'Hero lies the author of 'Mrs. Wiggs"!" " . . .

> It is noteworthy that Dr. Thomas Addis mmet's book, "Incidents of My Life." is limited to an edition of 750 copies, and was lately printed from type and the type destroyed. Much of the book relates to the Irish in New York, around the time of the Civil War.

> Poet-Will you accept this poem at your regular rates? Editor-I guess so-it appears to contain nothing objectionable. Go to the advertising department and ask them what the rates are. How many times do you wish it inserted?-Cleveland Leader. . . .

"The Story of the New Netherland," by William Elliot Griffis, member of the Netherlandish Societies of Middelburg, Netheriannian Societies of Middle States the story of the Dutch in America, from 1629 to 1905, and is told from original Dutch documents.

Mrs. Louise Closser Hale, who sailed last Saturday for Algiers, has told her friends and publishers that she has written her last novel about the stage, and that she will never not again. "A woman friend and myself are going out just as far as we can into the desert from Algiers in an automobile," she writes." and the only male thing that will go along is a chauffeur who halls from Roxbury, Mass., and has never been out of Massachusetts." How

"Reminiscences," by the late Dr. The very next day after the appearance Haultain, is of marked historical and

speakable "Three Weeks," has sailed for England. She left in the bands of her publishers part of the manuscript of her novel for next Autumn, and arranged for a series of articles in one of the maga-zines on the proper bringing up of young people. The theories of this eminent au-thority will be in a class all by them-

Edwin Tonney Brewster, biologist, is a native of Andover, Mass., where he lives. He recently gave up teaching in ips Academy to devote him

Herbert K. Job, author of "The Blue Goose Chase," a forthcoming story of adventure, has succeeded in getting an appropriation from the Government for the experimental raising of wild game. He will commence with quall, partridge and grouse. Mr. Job, who was formerly gregational minister, is now State Ornithologist of Connecticut.

Sadakichi Hartmann ("Sidney Allen") is going on the invitation of the ness government to make a study art museums in Japan. Mr. Har is German-Japanese, and has v "The Whistler Book." "Landscap "Landscape and Figure Composition," etc.

"Wintfred Graham," author of "Mary," "Wintfred Graham," author of "Mary," soon to be published, is known in private life as Mrs. Theodore Cory. Her home is at Hampton, on the Thames, England, in a house that was once the residence of Nell Gwynne and the Dukes of St.

A school teacher in this state who is noted for the usual accuracy of her literary estimates, looked over George Gibbs' new nove! "The Boited Door," when it was first published, and said: "That book is utter rot. It teaches a had lesson, and won't sell." A month after the novel was published, it went into the fifth edition, and demand for it con-

"Glamourie" is the intriguing title of a novel just published and written by William Samuel Johnson, a New York William Samuel Johnson, a New York Iawyer of long practice and a man of wide travel and reading. "Giamourie" is Mr. Johnson's first book, although he is the author of numerous verses, and it tells a story of an Irish gentue, his cousin Golden Burke, and a young American in the odd corners of Paris. Mr. Johnson is a descendant of Dr. Samuel Johnson, first president of Columbia College, and of Jonathan Edwards. He lived in Paris for five years—and during three of these years he was engaged in work upon "Glamourie." 'Glamourie."

## A CALL TO THE NATIONS.

Words by Rob Roy Parrish Dedicated 'to John and Jonathan. Ho, ye bold and hardy Britons, Ho, brave Heirs of Liberty! With a spirit of progression. Hands aclasp in unity. Get your minds and hearts together Pledg'd to mut'al fealty. Then fearlessly go forward To the glories yet to be

Carry Cross and Constellation, Of your famous banners high; Through the trials that oppose you Flaunt them dauntless in the sky! your work for weal of Nations, by the grace of God above." With noble thoughts and actions Come lead in lives of peaceful

Chorus To the glories yet to be.
Peaceful glories yet to be.
With your soils beneath your feet.
And your "Hands across the Sea;"
"By the grace of God above."
With your Flags o'er Land and Sea.
Lead the Nations on in love
To the glories yet to be.