

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-destructive.

GRANT THIS FRANCHISE.

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

WOMEN AND WORK IN THE FIELDS.

The women of Nebraska who have organized against dog field and dairy work, on the basis of a recent court decision defining the rights of husband and wife relative to work on the farm, are on the right track. Farm work, including milking, plowing, and weeding, is not a woman's sphere, entirely outside "woman's sphere."

A BADGE FOR SOBS.

From the point of view of the saloonkeeper there is decided merit in the proposed Walla Walla ordinance to compel drunks to wear a special badge or button. The button would bear a legend reading "I am a slob, or bearer of me," or something to that purport. As soon as a man thus decorated entered a saloon the barkeeper would recognize his falling and decline to sell him liquor as the law requires.

WHEN MENTAL EFFORT IS MECHANICAL.

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he was 82 years old at the time of 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 reason of 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 conscientious service to the public. He has worked all the time at the job. He has not spared himself nor his private interests and personal inclinations in the endeavor to do his full duty.

OUR WASHINGTON FRIENDS.

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 resources. This latest slap administered to Southwestern Washington by the Puget Sound interests is not, however, the principal reason for our increased friendliness shown Portland.

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remain, but the spark of the divine is irretrievably lost. Should the city fathers of Walla Walla conclude after due reflection that the proposed button might degrade 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, still there are others worth some little consideration.

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ONE LOUD VOICE FROM TILLAMOOK. 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 for his eye to give Tillamook County \$1500, to be used for two county fairs, yet the "Tax Eaters" secured \$9000 to improve streets in the neighborhood of the Agricultural College at Corvallis, 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 ralloading a bill for \$50,000 for an annex to the State Capitol. The "Tax Eaters" besides securing \$235,252.98 for maintenance of the University of Oregon, managed to work another \$175,000 out of the taxpayer's pocket for the building at Eugene, and the "Tax Eaters" got \$40,000 for a dormitory at Monmouth Normal School.

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FAULTS OF THE PAVING SYSTEM. Supporter of Ellis Amendment Names Wrongs as He Sets Them. PORTLAND, March 20.—(To the Editor.)—The proposed Ellis amendment to the city charter providing for competition in street paving is an excellent measure and should be ordered placed upon the ballot by the Council in its initial form. Patented pavements and collusive bidding on street improvements is municipal wrongs that should not be tolerated. And if this amendment is placed upon the ballot in June, the people will settle this question and settle it right. The question of street paving 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 most notable features of the present system.

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AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE. 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 resources. This latest slap administered to Southwestern Washington by the Puget Sound interests is not, however, the principal reason for our increased friendliness shown Portland.

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KATE DOUGLAS WIGGIN, who in private life is Mrs. George C. Riggs, has given us many readable stories, the chief among which are "A Cathedral Courtship," "Rose of the River," "Timothy's Quest" and "The Birds' Christmas Carol," but she is grieved that she is still mistaken as the author of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch." As all well informed people know, the author of the last-named story is Alice Hegan Rice who also wrote "Lover Mary" and "The Autograph Seekers" often begin their requests in the fashion:

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