# The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1911.

### NEARING DANGER LINE.

It is a common opinion, based on long experience, that it is easy to borrow but hard to pay. Seattle has just been warned that it is also hard to borrow and Portland needs to take warning by Senitle's experience.

Portland is gaining in population and wealth so rapidly that there is naturally a continual demand for public improvements to keep pace with the city's growth. Many of these are ssaential if progress is to continue and are of such a nature that they cannot fact, good business judgment requires that the necessary funds be provided luxuries, with which we can dispense until the necessaries are provided.

An Eastern firm of bond-buyers has ecently informed the city of Seattle that it will not bid on a proposed new issue of bonds by that city, both because the bonded debt of the city has already reached seven per cent of the assessed valuation and because it is proposed to expend the proceeds of the bond sale in a municipal street This firm considers seven per cent the limit of safety beyond which a city cannot go in mortgaging

Study of the financial status of Portland shows that this city is approaching the safe limit as to ratio of debt to assessed value. The valuation in 1911 is in round numbers \$202,000,000; the bonded debt of all kinds already issued or authorized is \$16,925,500. To this it is proposed to add under propositions to be voted on at the coming city election, \$3,525,000. This would make, if all the proposi-tions were carried, a total of \$10,-450,500. The seven per cent limit of safety would be \$21,140,000. Hence the authorization of all the proposed new bond issues would bring us very close to the margin. There are also several propositions to levy special taxes for particular purposes, which | would increase the annual collections constitute an added burden. though not increasing the bonded

Under these circumstances the voters would do well to consider carewhether each one of the pronosed new bond issues is necessary be fore casting his vote for it. He should also consider whether the city will get an adequate return on the money invested and whether the investment will not melt away before the bonds mature. The city was recently called upon to redeem some bonds when it had absolutely nothing to show for the money; the bonds continued to exist and drew interest after the things for which it was incurred had

A bond issue is a mortgage which all of us must help to pay. A man should be as cautious about mortgaging his city as he would be about mortgaging his home.

## OUR DECLINING EXPORTS.

The political economists who profeas to see in a big balance of trade in our favor evidence of prosperity will note in the March figures on imports a very satisfactory showing. Not only do the figures for the month show a heavy decrease from the imports for the corresponding month of last year, but the totals for the nine months ending with March are far enough be low those of the previous season to please the most exacting believer in the theory that in order to be prosperous we must sell to foreign countries much more than we buy from them. These imports shrunk from \$152,000,-900 in March, 1910, to \$139,100,000 in March, 1911.

As our exports for March and for the season to date were much larger than for the preceding season, that "balance of trade," as we term the difference in the amounts that we buy and sell, is steadily increasing. There still, however, remains a difference of opinion as to whether heavy imports are as detrimental to our prosperity as some of our people profess to believe. We buy many articles abroad because there is a saving effected thereby. The money thus saved is available for other purposes at home. The imports which are of the greatest economic value to this country are those articles used in manufacture. In hides and skins imported there was a decrease of more than \$3,000,000 in March. For the nine months the decrease has been more than \$15,000,000.

In unmanufactured fibers there has been a decrease of \$3,000,000. crude India rubber the decrease for March was more than \$10,000,000. Part of the decrease in the figures on rubber was due to much lower prices than prevailed a year ago, but in nearly all other commodities the lower figures are accounted for almost entirely by the falling off in the demand. In these items, all of the possible benefits accruing from the big balance of trade in our favor are neutralized because these lessening imports of articles which are used in our factories in the production of other articles mean a corresponding reduction in the demand for American labor and an attendant diminishing in the purchasing power of our own people. The preliminary report of the Department of Commerce and Labor, from which these figures are taken, shows heavy decreases in two items which do not portend any serious effect on the gen-

eral trade situation. importations of diamonds dropped from \$32,100,000 for the first months of the season a year ago to \$25,200,000 for the same period this season. There was also a decrease of more than \$2,000,000 in the importa-

ported was of \$1,000,000 less valuation than for the same period in the previous season. The details of our imports thus show that there is a distinct advantage in heavy importations of some articles and also an advantage in lessening importations of others.

### THE NEW CANADIANS.

The coronation programme in Lonion, which was to have included a highly spectacular representation of the defeat, through strategy, of the invading American force in 1812 by a handful of Canadians, will be changed by the alimination of this suggestive number. The reason given for the abandonment of this feature, according to a London cable, is a fear that "the pageant might wound the susceptibilities of American visitors to the coronation and might endanger the conclusion of the proposed Anglo-American arbitration treaty." In view of a good many other events that oc curred in the wars of 1813 and 1776, it seems strange that our neighbors, who are now so distressingly fond of American gold, should have had any intention of making such an exhibi-

It is somewhat difficult for the average Englishman, who "dearly loves lord," to understand that Canada, by reason of its close proximity to the United States and because of the close social and business relations of the people of the two nations, has grown away from some of the ancient manners and customs of those who still fawn at the feet of royalty. The average Canadian, and especially the Western Canadian, has more respect for the man who has risen from the be paid for out of current revenue; in ranks and reached wealth and fame by his own exertions than he has for the sprigs of decaying royalty who by long-time loans. Other proposed are sent from England to "govern" improvements can fairly be classed as Canada and whose birth alone prevents their being thrown into the discard.

This growing spirit of independence is largely the result of a heavy immigration of Americans to Canada. Too much Pinchotism has cost this country several hundred thousand of the best kind of citizens, who, in taking advantage of the more liberal land laws and other attractions which Canada holds out to them, very seldom so far forget the spirit of 1776 as to show any inclination for a monarchical

form of government. This determination of the Americans who have invaded Canada to remain independent and refuse to kow tow to royalty has made a great impression on the progressive Canadians It has been a potent influence in producing the sentiment favorable to reciprocity. These musty traditions and remnants of resentment which are responsible for the preparation of the pageant proposed for the coronation exercises will find favor only with a narrow-minded element which prefers watery royalty to red-ded democracy. Fortunately for still blooded democracy. both Canadians and Americans, this element is rapidly vanishing and will soon become a negative force in keeping alive the embers of resentment which long since ceased blazing.

## "IF I SHOULD DIE TONIGHT."

Nobody can be more peaceable than a dead man, and therefore, from one point of view, it was singularly appro-priate that Governor Dix should have appointed the late General W. I. Buchanan, of Buffalo, a delegate to the Third National Peace Conference Still the delegates to that Irenic gathering are supposed to make speeches and vote upon resolutions so that a dead man would fail in some of his duties unless he had control of a suitable lady to act as his medium communication with his fellow apostles. General Buchanan, it appears, had

been resting in the grave for some two years when Governor Dix conferre this posthumous distinction upon him and the fact that he was not wholly forgotten after so long an interval shows that reputation is not the bubble which Harry Piercy called it. bursting does not take place instantaneously. Oblivion hungers for all of us and for everything we love, but sometimes its omnivorous appetite is not gratified for a few months or years. Homer has lasted pretty well as men and things go in this transient world. The King who built the Sphinx has lasted better still. In fact, he is but coming into his long-delayed and well-deserved reputation.

We like to think that when we depart this life we shall not only be remembered forever and a day, but that we shall leave a rather big hole in human affairs. The world will do its level best to get along without us, but there will be a difference. Things will wobble a little for many a long day when we have gone to our long home. - Thus we like to fancy and no doubt the comfort we obtain from such reflections is proper enough. It does nobody any harm.

But it is all a delusion. Nobody is really needed in the world. The most evident fact of human life is superfluity of talent. The world is so full of brains that no man's count for a great deal. The more efficient an eminent business genius is the less he will be missed when he is gone, for it is part of his efficiency to organize his business so thoroughly that it will run just as well without him.

General Buchanan is happy to have been remembered for two long years. but since the Governor did not know he was dead, he could not have left much of a vacancy.

## A CATTLE QUARANTINE.

A quarantine against Oregon cattle will, it is intimated, be declared by the Federal Government unless rigid inspection is enforced against the cattle the Klamath and Lake County ranges, reported to be infected with mange. According to official reports that have been sent to the Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry at Washington there are between 13,000 and 14,000 cattle thus affected in Lake

County alone. This is a condition which admits of no lax methods of treatment and none will be tolerated by the Government. behooves our state authorities, therefore, to act promptly, insistently and intelligently in this matter, lest the stock industry of the entire state suffer from a vexatious and costly quarantine. It is well to remember in this connection that we as a state are putting our best foot forward just now in the interest of an increased agricultural and pastoral population. Colthither seeking to better their condition through environment and opportunity. Almost without exception they have been pleased with what they have assert that the farmers of Yamhili found here in climate, soil and varied County want a radical change in tax

clean, healthy meat, clean hides, clean dairy products and increased growth in the cattle industry at large.

The state government will, no doubt rise to meet any emergency that is likely to affect this industry and so forestall the threatened quarantine by

the Federal Government. Spring is advancing slowly upon the great ranges as compared with its adthe Willamette Valley and Southern Oregon. The cattle on the southeastern ranges are weak from conditions imposed by an unusually long and severe Winter and are not only susceptible to the disease which is reported to exist to a considerable extent among them, but are to weak to be subjected to the effective treatment of the dipping tank. With in another month, however, these conditions will improve and by the observance of due diligence all danger of quarantine will be avoided.

It is reported that the cattle mange has entered Oregon from Northern This is a feature that also California. calls for rigid investigation and action. Oregon must not bear the brunt of laxity in other states.

There are thousands of people in the world who will read with pleasure that the debts of the late Alexander Dowle have been paid in full. In spite of appearances, he was solvent when he died, and the financial troubles which embittered his latter years were caused by the meddlesomeness of others and not by his own failings. Dowle's fame as a prophet waned as he approached the grave, but it did ot disappear by any means. Many of his followers trusted him to the lastand many still believe that he possessed supernatural gifts. It must be admitted candidly that their faith is not entirely unreasonable. Let any ordinary human being attempt to do what Dowle did and he will quickly learn that he lacks some essential

quality. The difference between such men as Dowle and the common run of humanity is not one merely of degree. He had a faculty of which the rest of us are destitute. We do not undertake to say that this faculty was higher or lower than the ordinary abilities of mankind, but it was certainly different. In its highest degree it has appeared very rarely. Mohammed had it and so did Buddha, not to mention such moderns as Abdul Baha. Very likely none of them had this mysterious gift in such

superabundance as Confucius. But it is manifested in an inferior degree by many men who do not dream of founding new religions. Dowie had so much of the faculty that he was able to attract thousands around him and build a new city. But such men as "Get Rich Quick Wallingford" possess it to an extent by no means negligible. It is this faculty which enables them to begulle their fellows. The same inexplicable arts which drew the wandering and martial Arab tribes around the standard of Mohammed make the canny farmer a victim to the wiles of the gold brick seller. A person with Dowie's faculty can bend other men to his will in spite of themselves. He can convince them in the face of the plainest facts and lead them to do what they know will be ruinous.

It is the secret of the power of the "born orator." Even when he talks nonsense he holds an audience better the most rational speaker who lacks the peculiar gift. This does not prove that the audience are foots, but it does prove that they are human.

## MORE TAX DECEPTION

The last Legislative Assembly in Oregon voted to submit to the people at the next general election a constitutional amendment designed to repeat the Fels single tax organization foisted upon the people through deception in 1910. This repealing amendment presents an issue that should be met squarely and honestly by the single tax association. Yet, as The Oregonian understands the situation, only a minority faction of the association in Oregon desires to present its views openly and above board, or feels that honest defeat is better than dishonest victory. Another faction, which undoubtedly has gauged public sentiment accurately and foresees adoption of the Legislature's amendment, prefers an underhanded method. Hence the split in the single tax organization

Some days ago an attempt was started to build up sentiment for a \$3000 exemption on personal property and improvements. The plan as now revealed is to use the \$2000 exemption clause as a vote-catcher in the manner that the poll tax inhibition was employed in the single tax amendment in the last election. The new amendment is to be worded so that if it obtains a preponderance of votes ven over the Legislature's amendment the exemption amendment will prevail and nullify the other. In inevitable approval of an amendment | row. voiding their former successes and plan by trickery to subvert the will of the people.

The insurrection caused in the ranks of the single-taxers by such unserupulous methods apparently has not resulted in abandonment of the plan. Elsewhere today The Oregonian prints a communication, dated at McMinnville and bearing the signature of S. W. Babcock. Another communicaion, dated at Portland and signed by Alfred D. Cridge, is also published. The two were unquestionably written on the same typewriter in Portland. "Mr. Babcock" asks if a sort of steprate exemption on improvements of twenty-five per cent each year for four years might not be applied in Orethe people know what they are voting

This correspondent has made an un happy choice in locating his letterwriting in McMinnville. Yamhill County was one of the first settled portions of Oregon and is a typical farming community. Its decisions in matters of taxation may therefore be taken as good indications of what the farmers want. Yamhill County has spoken four times on radical changes in the tax system. In 1908 Yamhill voted against single tax to the tune of 2343 to 769. In 1910 it gave substantial majorities against each of the two Grange amendments, either of which, if adopted, would have permitted personal property exemptions. In 1910 it also voted against the single-tax local option measure.

In view of actual election returns it is futile for Portland agitators to tions of champagne. Laces decreased industrial opportunity. Of course, our methods. Such misrepresentation will about \$1,000,000, and art work impeople as a whole are interested in not help the cause of single tax nor

texts win more than once when originating in the same source.

The State Board of Forestry, in dealing with the forest fire problem seems to have adopted the old rule that "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure." In pursuance of that policy they have decided to enact very stringent rules which aim to prevent fire rather than provide for fighting it after it has started. Preliminaries have been arranged for co-operation with the State Board of and Game Commissioners, which it is hoped to have two deputs fish and game wardens in each county with the fire wardens. The act board is also engaged in a campaign of education in which literature is be ing sent all over the state warning people of the necessity for precaution against starting dangerous forest fires. The property loss by forest fires annually runs into millions, and most of it is the result of carelessness. The infliction of drastic punishment on a few of the careless hunters or campers early in the season will have a wholesome effect, and with an adequate number of wardens it will not be difficult to round up the offenders.

Dr. Lane's idea of larger blocks and fewer streets in the suburbs is one that suburban dwellers ought to approve. Had the residence district been laid out upon the basis thus recemmended for its suburbs, with serving alleys where needed for the accommodation of purveyors of household supplies, an enormous sum of money that has been spent upon the improvement of streets would have en saved to property owners, without in the least detracting from their convenience. The plan would have enhanced the beauty and cleanliness of these sections. But residents wanted the streets and still want them. So the streets must be made and paid for and paving companies in collusion will continue to wax fat of purse and arrogant in their demands. Simply stated, the streets cost money, but we have got to have them.

There is a decided difference of opinion in regard to the value of the land for purposes of settlement in the Federal grant still held by the Southern Pacific in Oregon. According to one estimate, that of Attorney Fenton, for the railroad company, the major portion of this land is not suitable for homes. On the other hand, the attorney for the Government contends that much of the land is arable. Neither opinion in this case can be said to be unbiased, but there is some logic in the contention that since the even-numbered sections of land which have been entered and occupied under the homestead law are supporting settlers, there is no reason to suppos that the odd-numbered sections, which are in controversy, would not be Harly useful if settlers were allowed to occupy them.

According to Washington advices, there has been an enormous accumu-lation of cash in the reserve and central reserve cities. Money is more plentiful in these reserve cities and in the banking institutions in New York than it has been for many years. Much of this accumulation of cash is due to hesitancy on the part of the public about investing until the financial atmosphere has been clarified by the Supreme Court decisions in the trust cases. Another reason is the preparation for crop-moving that is always begun about this time of the year. As a surplus of money in the bank is seldom profitable to its owners, we may expect a loosening of this supply as soon as the unfavorable influences are removed.

Mrs. Carrie Kersh, sobbing and protesting her inno mplicity I the murder of William Johnson, has entered the penitentiary to begin a term of fifteen years' incarceration Since, from the evidence adduced, she is guilty of the crime charged, there is little call for sympathy for this woman, especially since she is now provided, at the expense of the taxpavers of the state, with a home for the next fifteen years far superior in comfort and leisure to that of the ordinary honest woman of the working class. Moreover, since society needs all the protection it can or is likely to get from women of her kind, there would seem to be no call for weeping at the plight in which Mrs. Kersh finds her-

The almost weekly coal mine disaster is reported this time from West Virginia. The only new feature of this latest incident in a great industry is that the entombed miners are almost without exception Americans. Naturally it may be supposed, the distress incident to abject poverty in the fam illes of the unfortunate men is less than in the case of improvident foreigners who live constantly up to the small wage of the underground toilers, and who are left by the death of brief, Mr. Fels' employes foresee the the earner without bread for the mor-

> The City Attorney of Medford has advised electricity consumers they need not pay rent for the meters and offers to conduct a test case. It is out of all reason that a man be compelled to pay such charge. The butcher and grocer can as conveniently collect for use of the scales.

> Forty thousand settlers, mostly Scots, is the record of immigration into Western Canada through Halifax this year. It is too bad they did not get the right steer.

Only two per cent of the co-eds at Chicago University plan to marry, the others scorn the idea. But man proposes and the fates settle the question.

California's petroleum product this year amounts to over \$32,000,000, but wait until the Malheur drillers make a strike to see the Oregon yield equal it. To an ordinary observer it looks as if State Printer Duniway is not part of the state machinery, hence he

must move out of the Capitol. Enforcing the curfew law is proper, if the parents co-operate. Not all the burden should rest on the police.

Let the timbrel be whanged! torney Duniway has found another object of objection.

Sending the landlord of a disorderly house to jail for a month is one good way.

Olling the streets has begun and Summer is at hand.

will deceptive wording of amendment | SINGLE TAX IN SMALL DOSES Mr. Cridge Says Plan Is to Feed It

Oregon Gradually. PORTLAND, April 25 .- (To the Editor.)-In The Oregonian of today R H. Blossom asks eight questions about the single tax, all of which, as he says, are embodied in the eighth, "A certain amount of money is required to run our Government. Then why not to run our Government. everybody pay for its maintenance?" Everybody does, only many pay more than their share, and a few pay almost nil, shifting their burdens upon those who earn their bread by the sweat of

Everybody uses land, however, and in proportion to the value of the land they use they pay the taxes levied on it. Labor (of hand and brain) produces all wealth and pays all taxes. It also pays all the wast sums received land owners and franchise owners and holders for getting out of the way of labor and allowing it access to the earth. This tax levied by private parties and corporations upon labor for the use of the earth is many times more than that levied for and by our local, state and general governments. The governments give something in return, but the land speculator, landlord and landowner do nothing whatever but get out of the way and let other people work for them. The hold-ing out of use nine-tenths of the land creates an artificial scarcity and value for the remainder, which is exacted in one form or another, at one time of another, from the user whether he is a or an owner. to market with the burden of values paid to idlers on one shoulder and the burden of Government on the other. The land value paid to private parties could just as well be paid to the Government, leaving labor that much more of his products.

values cannot be A tax on land shifted, for the landowner collects all he can now. If land values and special privileges in franchises are taxed more and products of labor less the re-sult is more land thrown upon the market and a reduction of price or rent, so that the tax cannot be shifted to the worker.

These facts have been demonstrated in actual practice, so that they are out of the realm of theory in Van-couver and several other cities in couver and several other cities in British Columbia, New Zealand and Australia, Germany and other places where the principle is partly applied There is no proposal to apply the full single tax all at once or at any time in the future by date or number in Oregon. The result of such measures as are proposed would be gradual and no doubt for several years would some increase in land values by reason of the rush of population and capital to take advantage of the natural opcortunities of Oregon; but such crease would be less than would other-wise be the case because governments would take more of it than they do now, leaving less margin for the specu lator and more for the producer.
R. H. Blossom can obtain in several of the book stores full information on

subject, and if he wishes a conference and the demonstration of eight or 80 answers to his questions can secure it by setting a date and making ALFRED D. CRIDGE.

#### Marriage Proposal By Signal Code. London Tit-Bits.

It was an unconventional manner in which Lord Kelvin "popped the question," and in the doing so won his wife The question of simplifying the method of signaling at sea was then occupying his attention. His plan seemed simple to him, but to ordinary folk it was rather puzzling. He was staying with friends in Maderia at the time, and one day the subject was under discussion at the dinner table, but the only perion that seemed able to grasp it his host's daughter, a woman he great-"I quite understand, Sir William."

'Are you sure?" he questioned, half doubtfully. "If I sent you a signal from my yacht, do you think you could read it, and answer me?"

"I believe I should succeed in mak-ing it out," was the reply. The signal was sent, and she did succeed in making it out, and transmitting the reply. The question was: "Will you marry me?" and the answer was:

M'MINNVILLE, Or., April 21.—(To the Editor.)—I do not wish to occupy your valuable space in consideration of matters that may not be estimated to be of importance, but desire to call your attention to the fact that the Legislature of Saskatchewan has passed a law quite recently allowing cities and towns to take taxes from improvements in a sort of step-rate method, exempting 25 per cent each year for four years. Might not something of this sort be applied in Oregon? Farmers from that section of the continent tell me that owing to such exemption very largely being allowed agriculturists a tax on a farmer there of \$7 would be creased to ten times that in Yamhill County with about the same amount of ossessions. Of course we have need for more road expenditures than they have, but the farmers of this part of the country seem to think some change that he was on the other side of the must be had in our tax methods S. W. BABCOCK.

## Calling the "Colonella Bluff."

Housekeeper During the Spanish-American War, scon after Andy Burt was made Colonel of the Twenty-fifth colored regiment he informed his men, then at Chickamauga, that they must play ball haif an hour every day in once are playhardened up. "And while we are playing," he said, "remember that I am in
not Colonel Burt, but simply Andy in
Burt." During the first game the Colonel lined out what was a sure home
run. "Run, Andy, run, you tallow-facet,
knock-kneed galoot." yelled a black
soldier at the coaching line. The Colonel stopped at first base, got another
player to take his place, put on his
uniform and announced: "I am Colonel an hour every day in order to get hardened up. "And while we are play-Burt until further orders."

Names of Ministers Abroad. FOREST GROVE, April 25 .- (To the Editor.)-What are the names of the ministers from the United States to the following foreign governments: England, France, Germany, Italy, Russta, China, Japan, Mexico!

CARL O. PETERSON

Britain, Whitelaw Reid; France, Robert Bacon; Germany, David J. Hill (recently resigned); Italy, John G. A. Leishman; Russia, William W. Rockhill; China, William J. Calhoun; Property of the Computer of t Japan, Thomas J. O'Brien; Mexico, Henry L. Wilson.

Spokane ex-Policeman Arrested.

SEATTLE, Wash., April 25,-Dan Ka-

len, a former policeman of Spokane, indicted by a grand jury in that city for violation of the white slave law, was arrested in Port Townsend today ing become a nuisance. be taken tonight to Spokane for trial.

#### Bohemian Cattle Halt Plowing. London Tit-Bits.

Owing to a scourge of the foot-and-mouth disease among the cattle in all parts of Bohemia, many of the farmers were not able to finish their Fall plowing, as these animals are used largely in place of horses.

London Telegraph. The natives of New Guiana have been

found living as if in the stone age.

## Timely Tales of the Day

Gregory Heights has a commuter who always believes in looking out for himself and he takes particular delight in venting his spleen on the streetcar men operating on his line. After he had made numerous reports about the alleged misconduct and lack of courtesy on the part of the boys and had complained that he had been forced to wait anywhere from 15 to 50 minutes for his car, the streetcar company began to investigate, and with more fruitful results than was expected. One day he dropped into the main offices with the statement that he had waited 45 minutes for a car the night before "Yes," said General Superindendent Franklin, "I know it took you 45 min-utes to get your car last night. I have a report on it from the inspectors right here. It says that you reached the cor-ner of Fifth and Washington at 6:05. Then after waiting three minutes you went over across to a saloon and you met a man you knew and you drank two bourbon highbails and staid there seven minutes.

"Then you went out to the corner and the car had gone. Three minutes later ou went back to the same saloon and you had three more highballs—you bought one yourself, the other fellow bought one and the house bought the third: That took you 11 minutes, "You came out again and another car ad gone. That time you waited five

minutes and at 6:34 you went into an other saloon on the other corner and you drank one highball and one straight whisky and when you came out again the third car was half way to Fourth on Washington street and you run like a whitehead to catch it. Here's the report, look it over for yourself."

Not a complaint has originated from
that source since then and that was fully three weeks ago.

That even a Councilman likes to be gallant was aptly illustrated at a recent session of the street committee, when a pretty young woman entered room and engaged Councilman Baker in conversation. She asked him some questions concerning a subject in which she was interested and he which she was interested and he coaned her a nice, new pencil to make some notes. Mr. Baker was not a mem-ber of the committee and sat at one side. She sat at the table around which the members of the committee were gathered and when her notes were com-pleted arose and went over to Mr. Baker. She left the pencil on the table.

Councilman Menefee, a handsome and impressive man, thought he saw an op-portunity to do a gentlemanly act. He arose, picked up the pencil, took it to the young woman and said. "Here, madame, is your pencil," in his most win-

"I thank you, sir," she said. "Just hand it to Mr. Baker—it's his." Whereat, there was a general laugh, in which Councilman Meneree and the oung woman joined.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, when naking the trip from Sacramento, Cal., to Portland expressed great interest in the hunting possibilities of Oregon as e was riding on the Shasta Limited When President Campbell of the State University greeted him and made known his connection with the state's interests he asked: Do you know a man by the name of

"Finley? Finley? Seems to me that I have heard of him," was the educar's reply. "He is a bird man," said the Colonel

"Oh, you mean John Finley, president of the State Audubon Society?"
"Yes, he's the man. Now I must see
him when I get to Portland and I wish
you would hunt him up and tell him I

want to see him."
"I will be glad to do it. I know him well," was Mr. Campbell's reply. "I have taken a great interest in his articles upon the pheasant. You know I am deeply interested in this bird and would like to hear more about it. hope that they will be protected and that they will grow in numbers. You could have no better game bird in your forest than the wild pheasant.

From Malheur County comes the fol-Jones and Smith were hunting ducks on the Malheur River one day when Jones suddenly stopped and said: "Smith, I'll bet you a dollar that we

are on the other side of the river."
"You're crazy," was Smith's answer,
though after awhile he was induced to make the proposed bet. When the bet had been agreed upon, Jones pointed to the opposite side of the river from where they were standing and said: "Isn't that one side of the river, over

there? "Yes." Smith acknowledged. "Then this must be the other, and we are on the other side," insisted Jones. Smith acknowledged that he had lost

the bet, and he paid his dollar, He saw Brown coming toward them. "Just keep mum, and see me win that dollar back from Brown," he said in a voice to Jones as Brown approached. "Hello, Brown, I want to bet a dollar

with you that we are on the other side of the river." Brown ridiculed the suggestion, but

finally put up a dollar in Jones' hands and waited to have it proved to him "Well," said Smith, eagerly, though somewhat nervously, "this is one side of the river, ain't it?" "Yes," Brown said, "And that is the other," he said,

pointing to the opposite bank of the river. "Yes, that's the other side, all right,"

Brown replied, "and as we are not over there, I suppose you'll agree that I've won the bet." It took Smith just a moment to real-

ize that he had made a mistake in making his statement, but he paid the money without protest.

### Hogs-and More Hogs F. Hopkinson Smith in Scribner's Maga-

The judge would stroll over to court an hour or more late, only to find an equally careless and contented group blocking up the door-"po' white trash" most of them, each one with a grievance. Whenever St. George ac-companied him, and he often did, his honor would spend even less time on the bench—cutting short both ends of the session, his guest laughing himself sore over the judge's decisions.

"And he stole yo' shoat and never paid for him?" Temple heard him say one day in a hog case, where two farmers who had been waiting hours for Tom's coming, were plaintiff and de-fendant. "How did you know it was

"Tie a tag around his neck?"

"Well, you just keep yo' hogs inside yo' lot. Too many loose hogs runnin' 'round. Case is dismissed, and co't is adjourned for the day," which, while very poor law was good common sense, hogs on the public highway hav-

#### The Modern Child Protests Pele Mele.

Mother-"When you come home from school bring a pound of sugar with you." Child-"Sorry, mother, but our union forbids us to carry anything else but our school satchels.

# Harvard Graduate and Grocery Clerk.

Boston Dispatch.

Heir to a million dollars, and a Harvard graduate, Harold Clarke Durrell has gone to work as a grocery cierk at \$9 a week, to learn the business in which his father made his fortune.

## Advertising Talks

By William C. Freeman.

Somebody said, once upon a time-"It is easy for a man to resist temptation who has never encountered it." Applied to advertising, this means that we must not be too critical of the merchants who have yielded to the temptation of exaggeration in their printed announcements.

They fell into the habit because everybody around them seemed to practice it, so they were tempted to try to get business in this manner and they

One of the hardest things in the world to do is to break away from habit, particularly if that habit is not regarded as harmful.

That is why it is going to be hard to persuade many merchants to change their habit of conducting special sales. mentioning unusual values, and doing other things in their advertising ancouncements that custom has tolerated for so long.

Ask any merchant who makes a practice of advertising comparative prices and reduction sales, and 99 times out of 100 he will answer-

"The people expect this sort of thing -they do not respond to advertising unless it offers unusual inducements." Ask him again why he persists in loing this kind of advertising when enlightened public opinion is against it-

and then he will answer: "I cannot afford to confine my advertising to a mere statement of facts the people expect bargains, whether they get them or not."

One by one, however, merchants are changing their advertising methods, and the wisdom of avoiding the temptation of custom is impressing itself on their minds, because they find they get better returns from plain, homely, matter of fact advertising.

They find also that this kind of advertising builds a greater confidence in their store and in their merchandise.

The new advertiser-the beginnerfinds it easy to resist temptation in this matter, because he has never encountered it-so he starts right and reaches success by the quicker route. He sees before he starts the uselessness of exaggeration and mistatement.

## Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

"Her death," they say, when a woman dles, "was a true of every death. tragedy.

When a man has been away two or three weeks, and received all the pa-pers during his absence, he finds on is return that there is a lot of news that he must hear out behind the barn.

had four daughters get married, and that not one son-in-law asked his permission. The women are always telling of a man in their family so lazy he sits by the stove and lets the fire go out.

A certain father admits that he has

"Getting married," the women say, "means so much to a girl." Intimat-ing in a side-sweeping sort of way that esn't mean more to a man than

getting shaved. We have noticed that new things are constantly discovered that threaten to revolutionize the world," but they

A critic does not hesitate to tell an untruth to make a good point.

Nearly every man is dogged by a flerce appetite of some kind. Occasionally you meet a man who is

very near an anarchist; but I never knew a man to go all the way. Every big man has a lot of little things left over from his little days. A man can't marry every woman he

falls in love with. There are people in the world who never work, and who just sort of ab-

sorb a living. You meet people, and think they are lovely; then they begin to develop their meanness, and you find it is the same

old story. At what age should parents cease aking care of their children?

It makes no difference how great a country town man is at home, he is mighty insignificant when inquiring when in a strange city.

A rat is so worthless; it's a wonder doesn't chew tobacco and drink

Of course, you are very popular, but occasionally there is an unappreclative person who doesn't like you. Let a pouting child alone, and it will come back to the table. (And, by the

way, a man is only a grownup baby.) Every hour in this big wide world some man is married who never said outright to the girl beside him. "Will

you marry me?" Advice to bird dogs: When a bulldog has a bone, let him keep it.

## Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian, April 27, 1861. A letter from Tucson of April 2, to the San Francisco Bulletin, says that the proposed withdrawal of the Over-land Mail has caused a complete stag-nation in business. None seem to think of remaining in the country longer than to settle up affairs. The present year opened auspiciously here, but a panic has selsed all our citizens. It is said to be in contemplation to re move the troops from this country. If this shall be done Arizona will relapse into nothingness.

The beds of iron at Oswego have lately attracted considerable attention. The possibility of supplying ourselves with iron of native production should at once excite a lively interest. In the course of the next week a party of gentlemen, interested in the develop-ment of our resources, will visit the iron deposits and make a recognizance of the adjacent country, ascertain the practicability of working them.

Married-In Portland, on the 18th inst., by Rev. Mr. Cornelius, Mr. John M. Murphy, editor Washington Stand-ard, Olympia, to Miss Eliza Jane Mc-Guire, of Portland.

## Color Line in Gervais.

Gervais Star.

McKinley Mitchell has painted his warehouses a cream color, similar to that of the depot-a decided improvement.

## Dry Air As An Insulator.

Pittsburg Gazette-Times. So perfect an insulator is dry sir, that it takes ten thousand volts of electricity to leap a gap of an inch.