

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1911.

WHO'LL BE THE NEXT?

Mr. Bryan's rekindled demand for free wool is not quite so rekindled today as it was a few days ago. In a recent issue of the *Commoner* his stand on the subject was most sublime. Though the heavens fell he would have no wool tariff. Any man who wanted a duty on wool was a protectionist and as a protectionist his proper place was in the reprobate ranks of the Republicans. Now what a change!

News comes from Washington that most of this fine frenzy was but an empty show. Mr. Bryan is willing to let the tariff on wool remain for a while. He would cut off a little this year and a little more next year, and so on until in some far and happy future the staple shall be free, but not now, not for a long, long time to come.

The "business interests" must have an opportunity to adjust themselves. In Mr. Bryan's revised opinion the opportunity will require anywhere from ten to fifty years, or thereabouts. "Ultimate free wool" is the readjusted slogan, just as it has been the Republican slogan at any time this last half-century. The drama of "Hope Deferred" is about to be rehearsed again with Mr. Bryan for protagonist and the Democratic House of Representatives for chorus.

It would take the business interests not a second longer to adjust themselves to free wool than to each several dollar a head of the tariff. Under free wool it would be done once for all. Under the plan of an annual reduction it must be repeated year after year. Which is the better plan?

But there are reasons for the Bryan preference of amputation by inches. Champ Clark has friends in the wool business. They are sheep in Missouri as well as animals with longer ears and the removal of the wool duty would affect the income and the votes of these farmers. Mr. Clark wants the votes because he aspires to be President. He may keep his aspirants till the day of doom, but he will never be President of the United States, though you could not make him think so. Mr. Bryan is favorable to Clark's ambition. Hence his slump from the attitude heroic to the attitude frankly logrolling.

It goes with our dearest idols. "I never loved a king or a queen," but something awful was sure to happen to it. Now in spite of all our affection the same blight strikes Mr. Bryan. Who will be the next to fall?

TWO MAYORS.

Mayor Gaynor was in the earlier period of his administration generally acclaimed "the best Mayor New York ever had." He was the ideal executive. He pleased everybody. The batteries of the hostile press—except Hearst's—were silenced. He was regarded as a probable Governor of New York. Then he became a Presidential possibility. Dissatisfied communities everywhere pointed with approval to his wonderful popularity and called upon their respective Mayors to emulate his example.

But something has happened. There has been a remarkable recession of the Gaynor tide. His administration has sunk steadily in the general estimation. Critics have multiplied like flies in summer time; mail complaints have become furious broadsides. Nobody in New York is satisfied. The reply of Gaynor's friends is that nobody in New York ever was satisfied with anything or anybody for two consecutive years. They attribute the Gaynor eclipse to the public distemper, aggravated by the newspapers, particularly the hostile press, and, doubtless, they are right, or at least partly right. The newspapers do not alone reflect public sentiment; they create it.

Mayor Gaynor replied to his critics the other night in a public address. It is reprinted in part today. It has a peculiar prominence in Portland. It is a peculiarly interesting study of a man with a reading. Possibly it conveys a lesson, for the Mayor here, Mr. Simon, striving as everyone knows to do his full duty, has undergone the same experience that Mayor Gaynor has had.

How far Mayor Gaynor and Mayor Simon have been the victims of a censorious and unreasonable public judgment we shall not attempt to decide.

PRESIDENT TAFT AND THE SNOBS.

At last the man who strikes with the black bat has been drawn into open daylight. For many years he has struck in the dark to gratify his petty spite or his narrow prejudices or his snobbish pretensions to social superiority. Now President Taft has branded him as what he is—a "small-boned man." You may on the street hear him say "planned."

The Metropolitan Club, of Washington City, by its liberal use of the black bat, has created dissension in the Army and Navy and has excluded from its select circle certain new members of Congress. A few of its members, sufficient in number to successfully invoke the black bat, look into a man's pedigree rather than his work in the world, and study his observance of etiquette more closely than his following of the golden rule.

Washington is the gathering-place of increasing numbers of the type of men who fill such clubs as the Metropolitan. They are attracted by the glamor of the social life of the higher official circles, but probably in a larger degree by the aristocratic tone given that society by the

itled members of the foreign embassies. They long to fawn at the feet of royalty, and, failing that, to hang to the skirts of nobility. If they had their way, Washington would be the seat of a royal court and they, as "the best society," would back in a monarch's smiles.

So strong is the hold which the so-called best society has gained on the public mind that hardly a man below the President dare denounce its false assumption of superiority, or if he dares he would command no attention. But the President, not only by right of his office, but by right of his character and achievements, can command attention when he speaks, and venomous tongues cannot outgarter what he says.

speech on the black bat did a valuable public service and has earned for him the thanks of every man and woman who despises a snob.

WHO?

Who will be Rushlight's new Chief of Police? Ask him. What will the Chief be instructed and expected to do? Close the town? Drive out the disorderly women and the macquerels? Close the saloons on Sunday and after 1 A. M.? Maintain law and order always? Suppress riots and disorders from whatever source? Or what?

Who will run the town if Rushlight shall be Mayor? Who will have his secret ear? Who will guide his arms? Who will compose his messages? Who will direct his policies? Who?

These questions are in the minds of all. They cannot be answered by a single man. They can be answered only by a frank and explicit statement of facts and declaration of policy.

But Rushlight will not say anything worth saying or relying upon. It isn't in him. That is one reason why he is unfit for Mayor. And there are other reasons.

THE SHOCKING DAYS OF '97.

The Oregon Legislature of 1897 was a sorry affair indeed. That was the scandalous hold-up Legislature, where Lawgiver O'Brien, a member, and Lawmaker Bourne, another member, conspired to hold up. Then O'Brien put through the initiative and referendum, to prevent himself and Bourne holding up another Legislature. It may be supposed, evidently, he could not trust himself or Bourne or any other legislator.

We got the primary law, local option and corrupt practices act—for all of which there was a genuine demand and a real need—through the initiative. But how many of the other four measures submitted in Oregon under the initiative and referendum have reflected an obvious and imperative public demand? Not many. Some unquestionably, but not many. Who will say that there has not been abuse—gross abuse—of both the initiative and the referendum in Oregon?

The initiative belongs properly to the reserve powers of the people. Its indiscriminate use should be made impossible. It should never be the instrument of miscellaneous legislation. The initiative ought not to be the legislative usurper of the constitutional Legislature. Evidently he could not trust himself or Bourne or any other legislator.

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DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE WORK.

If the Development League could cut out any or all of the plan suggested for giving publicity to the many and varied resources of the West, the country as a whole will be benefited. The shifting of a few millions of people from the congested cities or worn-out farms of the East to the sparsely settled West would be of mutual advantage to the two sections involved. By leaving the East these people would make it much easier for those who remain, while their presence in the West would make possible development of vast stretches of idle farm land and forest into a productive condition that would add to the prosperity of all the people. Nearly every one who has met and talked with an informed Eastern folk will recognize the truth in the statement of ex-Governor Brady that "the greatest and most false prejudice that our Eastern neighbors carry against Western life is that we are without mental, educational and intellectual advantages of the older states," and that "to not a few the West is still wild and undeveloped."

The experience of the railroads with the exhibition cars sent through the East has been of a highly satisfactory nature. For that reason more work on similar lines would hardly fail to bring correspondingly good results. By an amalgamation of the various development organizations of the Western States the general invitation of the West to the East to come out and see the country is relieved of any appearance of local prejudice or selfishness. The State of Oregon is certain to profit by any influence which brings new settlers to or creates new wealth in Washington, Idaho or any other far Western state.

The entire West is now, and for many years will be, a producing instead of a consuming country. All of the states interested in the Western Development League are, as far as development has progressed, heavy producers of agricultural and forest products which find a market beyond the sea. The production and sale of these staples brings into the country new wealth that has a beneficial effect on the entire trade situation. The field for expansion along these lines is immense, but the best results cannot be secured until we have a population sufficient to make use of the millions of acres of land now awaiting cultivation.

The West, which now invites the East to come out and grow up with the country, is not that old West, with its Indians, desperadoes and other dime novel characters. It is a land of opportunity in which all of the necessities and most of the luxuries can be found abundantly and at prices more easily obtainable than in any other part of the world.

Woman suffrage in Seattle is not making a hit with Mr. Goldsmith, manager of one of the largest business houses in the city. In appearing before the Council to protest against the anti-smoking ordinance which had been initiated and passed by the city, Mr. Goldsmith stated that "if every man in the employ of my company and the rest of the large concerns would fire every man who is married, there wouldn't be any woman."

en's clubs." This seems to be rather a broad assertion. If the "firing" process were actually attempted, it might open new fields for women, lovely women. With hubby no longer employed down town, he could go home and rock the cradle, split the wood, etc., while the opportunities for club life would in some respects be much greater for the women than ever before. The stand taken by Mr. Goldsmith would indicate that he has no intention of running for office in the State of Washington.

PORTLAND STILL GAINING.

The current number of the New York Financial Chronicle contains an elaborate review of the bank clearings of the principal cities of the United States for the month of April and for the four months ending with April. The figures for the four months present a very accurate reflection of the general business situation throughout the United States. The continued reports of general stagnation in business in New York are fully borne out by these figures, which credit the metropolis of the New World with a decrease in clearings for the month of April of 16.4 per cent and for the four months with a decrease of 17.3 per cent. These heavy decreases pulled down the average for all of the cities of the Middle Western States, so that they showed for April a decrease of 14.9 per cent, and for the four months 15.5 per cent. The Western States made the next best showing, with 12 per cent decrease for April and 5.7 per cent decrease for the four months. In the New England States the April decrease was 1.5 per cent and for the four months 4.7 per cent.

The Pacific and Southern groups were the only ones in the country where there was an increase for the four months, the latter gaining 4.3 per cent. The Pacific group figures for the four months were 0.3 per cent higher than those for the same period last year. The excellent showing made by Portland and Los Angeles alone revealed the rapid growth of the region into the second column as the figures for both Seattle and Salt Lake were far below those of a year ago, while San Francisco registered a gain of but 1.9 per cent, compared with 8.1 per cent for Portland and 11 per cent for Los Angeles.

The enormous gain which Portland has been making in comparison with Seattle are reflected in totals for the four months. Portland's clearings were \$179,682,424, compared with \$166,270,342 for the same period a year ago, while Seattle, which led Portland for the first half of 1910, had this year slumped to \$170,916,595, or a total about \$9,000,000 less than Portland's. The April figures for a great many cities showed considerable improvement over the earlier months of the year, and, as there has been further improvement for the month of May to date, it is not improbable that the country is again on the up grade.

With the trust decisions no longer clouding the financial situation and with excellent crop prospects, there is good reason for believing that the coming four months will shift the most of the cities from the second column into the column where the gains are indicated.

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT.

The strong popular demand in Portland for the commission form of government reflects a state of mind which seems likely to become universal in the United States. Even New York, tardy as it is intellectually, has not escaped the new idea. Buffalo is about to vote upon the question of adopting the commission plan and, from the Evening Post, we learn that several other cities, large and small, have asked the Legislature for permission to adopt charters more or less like the famous Des Moines instrument.

The Empire State adheres to the ancient system of refusing self-government to its cities. They may not change for the better or for the worse without permission from the curiously practical board which assembles at Albany to make laws under the direction of Tammany. No commission charters are likely to be authorized at the present session, but the Evening Post feels assured that "New York State is certain before long to grant to its cities the privileges enjoyed in other states." Oregon cities need no permission from the Legislature when they wish to correct their form of government. Hence, when Portland is ready to adopt an improvement over the present old methods, there is nothing to hinder.

The commission form of city government, as all the world knows, began its brilliant career at Galveston, where it worked successfully in trying days after the destruction of the city by wind and flood. It occurred to some of the shrewd inhabitants of Galveston that a system of government which worked so admirably in times of stress might be depended upon to give still better results under ordinary conditions. So they did not go back to the old system of Mayor and Council, complexity and graft, but kept for permanent use the device which had served so well in their extremity.

From Texas the commission plan passed on to Des Moines, in Iowa, where, after careful study and mature deliberation, it was adopted with modifications and improvements. In the capital of Iowa it gave such satisfaction that it began to spread to other cities in all parts of the country. Wherever it has been put in operation it gives, upon the whole, good results. The report from Houston, Tex., that it transformed the atmosphere of the city Hall completely, is a universal experience. It appears to solve the difficult problem of obtaining honest and thorough representation in city government in the United States.

The kernel of a commission government is a City Council of not more than five or seven members. A very small Council is the essence of the plan, since it secures efficient representation for every member and at the same time admits of a short ballot. To each Councilman is assigned an entire department of the city's business, for which he is held individually responsible and over which he has full control. One of them serves as Mayor, but he has no veto and votes precisely like the others. In a general way he presides over the conduct of the city's business. The Councilmen are elected at large. City wards are abolished, with their petty intrigues, useless expense and low politics. The Councilmen are elected by direct primaries or petition, and upon the ballots both for the primaries and the subsequent election no party designations are permitted. Each candidate stands upon his merit as a prospective servant of the city. Political parties must make their capital in

other ways and the city attends exclusively to its own welfare. Under a true commission plan only the Councilmen, including the Mayor, and the city judiciary are elected. All the other officials are appointed by those who are responsible for their acts. Good salaries are supposed to be paid, and every official, from top to bottom, is required to give all his working time to the city.

The merits of the commission form have been proved by wide experience to be very numerous. By the short ballot it secures direct judgment of the electors upon the merits of each candidate. Responsibility is fixed and definite for every member of the government. The present complicated machinery of the City Hall is replaced by a simple mechanism which works without clash or friction. Efficiency follows as the natural consequence of full responsibility, while the elimination of useless machinery makes the commission government much more economical than the old form in spite of the high salaries paid under it. This is true, even if we pay no attention to the honesty which it enforces.

Best of all, the commission plan is thoroughly representative. It is the only scheme yet devised for giving the people complete control of the city. Of course the initiative, referendum and recall are important parts of the plan, but they present no novelty to the voters of Portland.

An inch of rainfall on the "light" lands of Umatilla County means a large addition to the value of the agricultural output of that county. As there has been an unusually liberal supply of moisture on similar lands in other parts of the Northwest, nothing but hot winds or wet weather at harvest time can prevent the Pacific Northwest from harvesting a record crop. What are known as the "light" lands of Oregon and Washington produce enormous crops when there is a sufficiency of moisture, the yields in some wet years of the past having been far in excess of the best output ever secured from the heavier soil in the foothill country. A big crop even at moderate prices is much preferred to a small crop at large prices, and from present indications farmers, railroads and all other individuals or industries directly or indirectly connected with the business are on the eve of a "good year."

Mr. Rushlight is for the commission form of government, too. Certainly. He will help it along, perhaps. But he thinks the public ought not to pay for a special election to adopt a new charter. Would he have the Council proclaim the charter, without reference to the people? We guess not. The expenses of the election then will presumably be paid by private subscription from public philanthropists. Oh, yes. The commission government will favor well at Rushlight's hands, indeed. But we will not get it from him as Mayor.

Church unity has come where it was or might have been least expected. The German branch of Lutheranism in the United States has absorbed the English branch of that denomination. This is the first time that a denominational consolidation since the Cumberland Presbyterian Church fused with the parent body a few years ago. In neither case was there any relinquishment of beliefs or of creeds. The distinction without the difference was merely discontinued.

"A desperate attempt to offset the anarchy of the bribe with the anarchy of the bomb." Thus the Rev. C. S. Gardner characterized a recent episode in the struggle between labor and capital. The phrase is so neat that one half suspects it may be true. If a war has actually broken out between bribery and bombs, there are interesting times ahead for plain citizens who believe in neither.

The New Jersey lawyers think "lay criticism" of the courts is worthless. The public will retort that their opinion is tainted with fanatical self-interest. Nothing the lawyers can say will prevent laymen from criticizing the courts and enforcing the criticisms by vote. The only alternative for the lay profession itself to initiate some sweeping reforms.

Governor Wilson is never at a loss for an answer. "No man is big enough to refuse a nomination" for the Presidency, is one of those truisms which nobody but a genius ever thinks of at the right moment. It says everything and nothing—let it be exactly what oracles and statesmen think language was made for.

Laundries in Washington and California are raising rates and asserting necessity caused by the new law relative to shorter hours of labor for women. Any poor excuse is good enough to justify a rate increase. I dare say it would have been one of the great records in the history of the country, though not forward or demagogic, although not generally known, the reconstruction policy as adopted in the main by Congress was largely, if not entirely, of his inspiration when a new member at the first session of the 38th Congress in 1863.

Not many realize the vastness of China until attention is called by a fire in a Manchurian city that rendered 40,000 people homeless. A catastrophe of that nature in this country, so-called, would be a disaster of the first magnitude. In fact, it is headstrong that is forgotten the day after.

Clackamas County scholars are said to be deficient in knowledge of civil government. Clackamas is home of the great apostle of the Oregon plan of government, which is civil and mightiest until times. He might let the radiating rays of his halo illumine the minds of his near-constituents.

Is the Oregon Legislature now more representative than in the old days? If so, why the increasing use of the initiative? If the Legislature is less representative, how has the initiative helped representative government?

A man came all the way from the Philippines, 9000 miles, to marry a Portland girl, but that is not remarkable, for all Portland girls are worth the effort and endeavor.

The "boosters" think they have outgrown the word, which means something, and want to be known as "educators," which means anything.

Rascally real estate in this region are at last in fair way to be put out of business.

Diaz and Madero will resign, but the latter would see the former go first.

Woodrow Wilson has an old-time Presidential head.

ONE MAYOR AND HIS CRITICS.

New York Situation Has a Parallel in the City of Portland.

Mayor Gaynor's speech before the New York Civic Service Reform Association. E. H. Goodwin got me to come here. He tried to convince me that I had done something to further the cause of civil service reform since I became Mayor, but I didn't know that I had done anything. I suppose some of you thought, as Mr. Shepard said, that if I happened to get to be Mayor, civil service reform and everything else would go to the dogs. I don't know why you should have thought so. I have worked on many problems of municipal reform, and have worked on them all my life, as St. Clair McKelway, who, I notice, is here, might tell you, if he wants to tell the whole truth, which isn't always the case with him. (Laughter.)

Well, I don't mind what is said about me. I know I don't deserve much. None of us can deserve very much. Some men think they are too good even to marry a woman—that so what man is good enough for them. They find out soon enough, as a matter of fact, that they are not good enough to marry the first woman they meet. Some of us are not even fit to live, according to our critics. I have felt that way myself for the past 60 days or so, judging from what the newspapers have printed about me. Now I am perfectly content to be alive. I am even willing to be shot in the front, provided I am not shot in the back.

Many years ago I heard Carl Schurz speak up in Utica about civil service reform. It was a new thing then, and what he said went in one ear and out of the other. I am not sure that it ever got into my mind. The barbarous maxim "to the victors belong the spoils" prevailed then. You mustn't think that you have got rid of that maxim even yet. I don't want to say anything that will come home too close to you, but a good deal has yet to be done. I don't want to exalt myself, but I have charge over some 16 departments of the city and am the head of these departments and can give orders—some say that I am an easy boss and don't give orders—and not a single person has been discharged for political reasons, not even for being a Hearstite, although I am free to say that I felt a good deal of temptation, and might say more about having a justifiable cause to bounce some of them. There are some places in the city where civil service rules are being ignored.

I have noticed that it was during the periods of my life when I tried to do good things that I received the greatest opposition and abuse. But I had fortitude enough to keep my head down and go right on doing the work, getting along without them as best I could. I saw no way to keep out of doing the same thing until my term is up.

There is another side to this maxim of "To the victors belong the spoils." The time to make offices competitive is before you turn the men out. To turn out the officials and appoint new ones so that these will be under the civil service rules requires a chessman which I will not describe. Another side to the maxim is that it is to be over to do it. I could tell of much good that societies have done and continue to do, but I say now, as I said when they wouldn't take Mr. Shepard for Senator—it is not those in office as a rule who do most for the cause of good government, but those on the outside.

What does it amount to to hold office, after all? It does not add a single cubit to your stature. Societies like yours, I have said, are prone to go too far and do too much. Right here in this city, through your influence, persons have been put on the competitive list who should never have been put there. I wouldn't say the Controller for worlds. (Laughter.) Some people are put on the competitive list and cannot be put for cause. There was a case last year.

But despite criticism I have long learned to be patient. If you achieve anything you can see it soon enough, and if you don't achieve anything all the angels in heaven cannot make you see it. I have undertaken to do things, I suppose, which at times were not altogether clear, but I think I have been justified by results. Now I have talked long enough and I suppose I have said some disagreeable things.

Hayes a Fearless Executive.

OREGON CITY, Or., May 15.—(To the Editor.)—An article in which The Oregonian states that the Hayes administration was "colorless and without incident, or words, or effect," I find to be exaggerated, though possibly unintentionally. Hayes was one of the most plain-spoken, fearless, though modest, executives any nation ever had. If he had been placed in the chair for a long time, I dare say, I should have been one of the great records in the history of the country, though not forward or demagogic, although not generally known, the reconstruction policy as adopted in the main by Congress was largely, if not entirely, of his inspiration when a new member at the first session of the 38th Congress in 1863.

Correspondence, May 16.—(To the Editor.)—May I have a little space in The Oregonian to answer the letter in this morning's issue signed S. J. Claridge? I am one of Mr. Lafferty's "loyal friends" who wish him every success, and one who believes Oregon will not have cause to be ashamed of her "boy Congressman." Mr. Lafferty is all that Mr. Claridge says in his letter, he (Mr. Claridge) ought either to be sent to the asylum or disfranchised. His criticism is not worthy to be voted if he is "helped put an ass in Congress" and surely is crazy if he would admit it. If he thought so, having helped elect him, where would he be? I don't know. I for one am going to be very sure he is the right one before I vote for any man, then if he happens to be elected, I will take for my motto, "Boast, don't knock." Why don't we all give Mr. Lafferty a boost instead of a knock? SUFFRAGETTE.

Saloon and the Public.

ASTORIA, Or., May 16.—(To the Editor.)—Is a saloon in the state of Oregon a public place? Can a saloon-keeper refuse to serve a drink to a person if he so desires? SUFFRAGETTE.

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MEDIUM COURSE THE PROPER ONE.

Portland Should Not Have Class Struggle, Declares Writer.

PORTLAND, Or., May 14.—(To the Editor.)—I am one of those surprised voters in the recent election who gave Mr. Lombard his vote to one majority in the residence districts. We have all been doing more or less accounting for the job we got and have discovered the many voters, the North-end heifer and Mr. Joseph's machine and are inclined to let it go at that. By so doing I am inclined to think we may be playing the ostrich and are overlooking a much more fundamental factor in the situation.

I read with interest the two letters in last Sunday's Oregonian from labor union men, and I have also seen a copy of the Employers' Association homecoming letter of political advice to its members. These several communications from the two sides of the labor question are all characterized by marked class-consciousness and it would therefore appear that a class is or has been threatened in Portland.

If this is in fact the situation, it is the duty of every right minded voter to review his knowledge of the fundamental principles of democracy, and to take sides squarely and intelligently for what he considers right and just. In this connection I wish to call attention to an eminently sane and withal conservative statement of the problem by Washington Gladden in recent numbers of the Outlook; particularly the number of March 15. If it is a fair statement of the case, it would seem that the members of the Employers' Association of Portland have assumed a wholly unwarranted attitude of "Medieval attitude" in history. And if they have, it is very certain that they are doomed to fail; for this is the 20th century, and "democracy" is going to complete itself.

It can find no better champion than Mr. Rushlight. General Otis seems to have been misled by his attitude upon the recent convention of employers in Portland, but as was intimated by Mr. Roosevelt in his article, "Moralizing and the American people," do not accept the Otis view of the case; little as it approves of the labor union incubus that is throttling San Francisco.

There is not sufficient wisdom and spirit of fair play in Portland to steer a safe course between the Scylla of Otis-ism and the Charybdis of McGuffin-ism and can give orders—some say that I am an easy boss and don't give orders—and not a single person has been discharged for political reasons, not even for being a Hearstite, although I am free to say that I felt a good deal of temptation, and might say more about having a justifiable cause to bounce some of them.

CHARGES SHOULD BE SPECIFIC.

Constraint of Councilman Ellis Asks For Particulars in Recall Move.

PORTLAND, May 13.—(To the Editor.)—It is announced that the required number of signers on the recall petition of Councilman Ellis have been obtained and that the petition has been filed for the voters to decide upon in the June election. Now while the recall system is a weapon which works very effectively, if the public at large sees fit to dispose of an official member who has disqualified himself in one or another way, it is equally true that a very unjust method if the main essence in the accusation is the outgrowth of political rivalry or the gratification of personal grievance without regard to public interest.

The public wrath in some part of the Tenth Ward must have fallen heavy upon Councilman Ellis as the political death seems to signify the instigators of the move. Now every citizen of Portland is entitled to know the charges against him, and it is what he has done, or is it what he has not done? His proposed public docks were interpreted as impractical and little more than a joke. In the controversy they allowed to brand him an incompetent and menace to public health, and in an endeavor to secure for the cement sewer pipe an honorable place beside the city's companion, he was placed on suspicion for being a too ardent admirer, while at last his competitive paying petition, although excellent, was rejected by the monopolies, was placed under the rays for the sole purpose of having him on exhibition for criminal actions.

Councilman Ellis' case in the June election, must be regarded as a jury trial where every juror in the Tenth Ward is called upon to cast a free and an honest vote. It is the duty of each juror to weigh conscientiously all evidence for or against the defendant, so as to be justified in his own conscience. CARL KRUSE.

Oregon Road Laws.

PORTLAND, Or., May 16.—(To the Editor.)—If a road has been laid out and surveyed, a public assessment and survey can be put into effect and shut it up to keep B's stock from going out on it. There has been a road to benefit others and the gate has been open for the last eight months. Now as soon as there want to travel it. A says he is going to put a gate in. A SUBSCRIBER.

It is unlawful to close a public highway.

WHILING OF LAND.

SILVERDALE, Or., May 16.—(To the Editor.)—My first husband left a will giving to his daughter by his first wife 200 acres of land, to myself 150 acres for life, the rest and residue to him or his heirs forever. The farm contains in all about 400 acres. Can I will the balance or what is over the 350 acres without it first being set aside for myself? A SUBSCRIBER.

Yes.

Either is Correct. BAKER CITY, Or., May 15.—(To the Editor.)—"Tomorrow will be Tuesday." "Tomorrow is Tuesday." A says that only the first sentence is correct. B says that either may be used and be considered correct. Which is right? SUFFRAGETTE.

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

(Copyright, 1911, by George Matthew Fox, Astoria, Ore.)

If a man should be suddenly called to a woman, he couldn't get his clothes off.

There are two sides to every question; and men on both sides are usually bigoted, unreasonable, selfish and foolish.

Young man, if you want to avoid marrying, don't go too long with the same girl.

You can get encouragement in many a town where you can't get a dollar.

You no doubt think people are greatly interested in knowing what you think about matters in general, but you are mistaken.

Every druggist says he knows how to make something better than some articles that have made fortunes.

Everyone is crazy to attract attention. You are; you needn't deny it.

If you have willing friends, you soon impose on them shamefully, unless you watch yourself closely.

Women usually get the best of it in court, which is probably a sign that they usually get the worst of it elsewhere.

In carrying a pistol, remember it is no fun to kill a man.