

The Oregonian

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Portland, Wednesday, May 24, 1911.

A TYPICAL STANDPATTER.

The Oregonian prints this morning a letter from a man living not far from Pendleton, a Mr. Hutchinson, who avers that he is a farmer and makes some pretense of speaking for other farmers on the subject of the tariff.

Take the following statement from Mr. Hutchinson's letter and see if you can believe that it was made by a man of outstanding intelligence. "The protectionist knows that high tariffs increase trade, both exports and imports, and low tariff, or the threat of low tariff, decreases foreign trade."

Mr. Hutchinson is like a good many other men who adore their fetishes so abjectly that they do not stop to look very closely into arguments that would destroy them. He may comfort our Pendleton friend to learn that he is in the same boat with the distinguished Mr. Mann, of Illinois, in this matter. Mr. Mann also set out to defend the indefensible the other day.

His theme was the benefits which the tariff brings to the farmer. The fundamental purpose of the tariff is to keep out imports and thus preserve the American market for our infant industries. If it does not keep them out but actually increases their volume, protectionist counsels us to have a tariff on the tariff.

When we are not so particular about the Swedish plant. The others are amply sufficient to show how the tariff protects American labor and builds up home industries. With what bliss it ought to suffice the heart of the farmer to hear that the tariff has been paying two prices for his reapers and mowing machines in order to build up infant industries in France and Russia. This is altruism, indeed.

Mr. Hutchinson says he sold his seed in Cleveland in administration for 30 cents a bushel and thinks the low price was caused by a low tariff. He does not know that the Wilson tariff was substantially as high as the one it superseded, but no matter what now, it is a fact that the Honorable William H. Wilder, of Massachusetts, made precisely the same blunder in a speech on the tariff and reciprocity the other day.

Advices from Boise report great activity in railroad circles in the Salmon River territory. Northern Pacific cars are depositing at the mouth of the river, and it is reported that the road will be pushed through to Salmon, Idaho, where it will strike the Salmon River and a water-level grade down to Lewiston.

The death of two women well known in the pioneer era and annals of the State, almost equal in length of years, and closely associated in their prime to church work and neighborly offices, occurred almost simultaneously—on Saturday and the other Sunday morning.

morning Mrs. Ellner Smith Knight, wife of Rev. P. S. Knight, of Salem, passed away in that city. Both had lived out the allotted span of life. Mrs. Adair being 74 and Mrs. Knight 72 years old; both were laid to rest in cemetery. Their names carry a weight of womanly endeavor and influence that will extend far beyond the term of their natural lives.

There is a Brooklyn home-owner who has an interesting project in mind. He is a member of the Brooklyn Home-Owners' Association, and he is a member of the Brooklyn Home-Owners' Association, and he is a member of the Brooklyn Home-Owners' Association.

Why a party primary for a municipal election? Why a party ticket? The voters at the late Republican primary in Portland were not all Republicans. Few of them were.

One conspicuous and indispensable feature of the commission plan of government in nearly all cities is the election of a party ticket. In most places a general primary open to all voters is held. It is a mere elimination contest.

The completion of a magnificent building for their reception at last enables New York to bring the Astor, Lenox and Tilden libraries to the city. The combined collection of books will hereafter be administered as a public library, free to all readers.

The Astoria Chamber of Commerce is endeavoring to have a change made in the present zig-zag channel across Cathlamet Bay. A petition has been sent to the Government engineers asking that a channel be dredged through a more direct route past Tongue Point.

But, not to wander from our theme, we were on the point of saying that in the modern American city the public library is as important a part of the educational system as the common school. Its influence is perhaps even wider.

The schism which has been so often predicted begins to show itself among the "followers." It would be something very unusual in the history of religions if they should remain united. Within the first century after the death of its founder, Christianity was divided into a dozen sects—all more or less hostile to one another.

The Kansas minister's wife who demonstrated her piety by horsewhipping her traducer has a creed well enough adapted to frontier exigencies, but not exactly biblical. We are told in Grand Junction that she has been forgiven an enemy seven times over, but she applied the lash at the first offense.

No doubt diversions less questionable than the "Rose Festival," a week is apt to hide a good many things besides innocence on occasions when a gay and careless crowd has assembled.

If making and the unbridled license it affords is permitted any night during the Rose Festival, some of the maskers will awake in the hospitals the next morning.

There is little use in continuing longer to fine the drunken rowdy on a late streetcar. A broken head or the rockpile will have more effect.

North Bank railroad. The Harriman interests have already started construction of a road down the Snake River canyon, and eventually it will be built through to Lewiston, thus giving them a water-level grade all the way from idewater at Portland to Pocatello, Idaho.

These water-level grades, however, will enable the roads to profit by "back haul" business from the Pacific Coast after the Panama Canal is completed. The stress of ocean competition is already being felt on many of the Atlantic seaboard, and the situation will be intensified as soon as through steamers from New York and other Atlantic ports begin landing unbroken cargoes at Portland for distribution throughout the Pacific Northwest.

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but he gained such distinction that he considered this money well spent. But as the nineteenth century grew towards middle age, a change came. Formerly the country squires, the rich manufacturers, the successful lawyers had mainly composed the House of Commons. There now began to creep in a class of men less able to bear the financial strain. It is the rule with English corporations to pay their directors one guinea (about \$5) for each meeting they attend.

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WHAT THE COMMISSION GOVERNMENT IS

How the Movement Started and What It Has Accomplished—Many Innovations Which Improve and Simplify Municipal Machinery—Percent of Revolution in Many Cities.

The following is the first of a series of three articles on the progress of the movement for better government in our cities, written by Richard S. Childs, and furnished to the Oregonian by the National Civic League, Woodrow Wilson, President.

The spread of the commission movement is all the more striking because it has begun entirely by accident. Galveston, Tex., after the great flood of 1900 was practically wiped out. So much progressive and constructive work was demanded of the city government that the old system of a Board of Aldermen and the usual string of independent elective officers broke down. A group of business men petitioned the local government and replaced it temporarily with a commission of five men. This was done, and the whole city was put under the control of five men, three of whom were appointees of the Governor. This was where the term "commission" originated, and the name has been used ever since.

After two years, during which the politicians were finding precious little to do, the commission was made entirely elective by popular vote, much to the disgust of the old party bosses. The town, who had been much pleased with the practical success of the Governor's commission. Their fears, however, proved to be groundless. The people proceeded to elect the same commission and have continued to do so ever since.

A few years after Galveston first began to attract attention some civic workers in Des Moines began to study the subject of popular government in fundamental fashion. They devised what has since become known as the "Des Moines plan." This plan is simply a form of government, with certain interesting additions, known as the initiative, referendum, recall and nonpartisan primary.

The elimination of the party name, symbolized by the ballot, is a highly significant and characteristic feature of the commission form of government. It excludes the political machine from a great advantage which it has long enjoyed. It leaves independent candidates on an exact equality with those proposed by the organizations.

The plan of the new government in Des Moines gave the movement new stimulus throughout the country, and it began to spread in earnest. Many towns adopted it from a mere desire to be abreast of the times and to show the world that they were progressive. In some places the plan met with vigorous opposition, sometimes in some cities it was carried by an overwhelming vote.

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An exact definition of the commission plan of government is this: It is a form of government in which the voters elect a commission of five or seven members to govern the city. The only feature wherein all these "commission" governments coincide is the concentration of all the

Advertising Talks

By William C. Freeman.

Can paper bags be advertised to advantage? This question was put to me the other day by a young man in a large concern which manufactures all kinds of paper bags.

I told him I believed the right kind of advertising would increase the sale of any product, and, furthermore, would back up the efforts of their salesmen and jobbers.

I suggested that he try out advertising in some territories where the sales were not proportionate to the amount of work put into that particular territory, and see what results would follow.

I advised him to take space in the advertising columns of the daily newspapers to tell about his product, and in that way reach owners of small stores, specialty shops and even the big dry goods stores.

The quickest way to interest any merchant in any product is to advertise it in the newspapers, because the merchants in every community are close readers of daily newspapers and the advertising therein.

Another thing newspaper advertising will do for a manufacturer is to create in the minds of the people a desire to buy the article advertised, and the people will go to their dealers and ask for the advertised product—it influences both the merchants and the consumers.

Yes, paper bags can be advertised to advantage. Advertising will open up new territories for paper bag manufacturers, just as it opens up new territories for other products.

Perhaps, after a while, newspapers will see advertising of paper bag manufacturers in their columns. (To be continued.)

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

(Copyright, 1911, by George Matthew Adams.)

The real ambition of every crank is to start a church and political party of his own, and be the bishop.

No man becomes an anarchist until he has been a loafer a long time.

When a reformer calls on the people to rally around him, it is sufficient strength to cause the enemy to treat with him.

A girl's letter always reminds me of a girl's joke; never much in it.

"Can I afford to get married on ten dollars a week?" a young man asks. No, but you can find plenty of girls willing to try it with you.

The meanness of people crops out most surely in money matters.

It would throw every husband into a cold chill if he knew how much his wife enjoys the widow with a lot of life insurance.

When a man worries a great deal he says he is overworked.

If a man is treated well at home, he would rather eat at home, and sleep at home, and loaf at home, than anywhere else.

Talk about political reform seems to be as fruitless as talk about better country roads.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian, May 24, 1861.

The Yreka Sentinel writes that the new proprietor of the California telegraph office will no doubt soon extend to Portland.

Charles F. Mansfield has been appointed postmaster at The Dalles—a capital appointment.

The union-loving citizens of Belpast and vicinity, Marion County, assembled at the institute grounds on the 18th inst. for the purpose of raising the American flag on the grounds of the Union Club. Major Joseph Magone was unanimously chosen to preside over the meeting.

The meeting then formed in procession and marched around the flag pole to the tune of "Hail Columbia." After the flag was raised, the speaker proceeded to Academy Hall and listened to an address to the American flag by William T. Ramsey.

A Lesson in Scotch Dialect

Washington (D. C.) Herald.

Charles S. Barrett, of London, who is at the New Eccleat, said this about a recent trip to Scotland. "It came as a great shock to me to find that in Scotland the Londoner is regarded as a foreigner. I argued the point with friends in Aberdeen, but all to no purpose. Now this is the only shrewd advice that people do not dress like Harry Lauder, and the corkscrew stick he affects is wrong. I experienced great difficulty in providing myself with a stick of Lauder pattern, and then found that the best people do not carry them."

"Also they speak a strange language down there, and it does not resemble in the least the anemic Scotch tongue we heard in 'What Every Woman Knows.'"

Brotherly love is a very formidable language altogether, as I realized when the guard on the train sat beside me and talked for 30 minutes and I understood not a word.

Before the Streetcar Order

New York Telegram.

Great medicinal value was claimed for tobacco when it first appeared in Europe, but soon thereafter its use was condemned and severe punishment was meted out to offenders. In the early days of the tobacco trade, the pipe smokers in Russia were cut off.

About the same period Sultan Amur of Turkey ordered that the pipes of smokers be broken through their own hands. For more. The history of tobacco legislation, or attempted legislation for 30 years proves that beyond a doubt.

Why can't the Oregonian be candid with the people or let us defend ourselves. During the four years of Cleveland's Administration, I raised wheat for 30 cents per bushel, and it was hard to get a bushel. Under the Dingley tariff I got from 60 cents to \$1 per bushel. Cleveland's Administration made more money for the pauper and the millionaire than anything that ever came to our country.

The Dingley tariff up to 1907 doubled foreign trade, and was the most prosperous period in the history of our country. S. F. HUTCHINSON.

The Cautious Futurist

Pages Folio.

"Dear Mr. Durand—Your letter was extremely impertinent, and I return it to you unopened."

Up Against the Bars.

New York Evening Post.

A merry old soul was he; He called for his pipe, and he called for his beer.

And he called for his siders three. But when the third came, he was barred. From earning his living thenceforth, because he carried no union card.

He carried no union card. Nor came the pipe with its golden bowl. For all such things had been driven from court by the W. C. U.