The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1911.

TAFT FACTS VS. PINCHOT THEORIES.

President Taft has completely disposed of the charge that the opening to settlement of water-front land on Controller Bay was a secret move in the interest of the Ryan syndicate and has proved that the charge was based upon a clumsy forgery. Gifford Pinchot's reply only serves to confirm the oft-repeated statement that, in his fanatic zeal for conservation as he views it he would stretch the law to the breaking point, tie up the resources of the country instead of developing them, and misstate facts to sustain his theories.

The President relates that, when the Controller Bay affair came up to him last October, the Forest Service found no objection to the elimination of the tract for which Ryan had applied or indeed of 18,000 acres on the northwest shore of Controller Bay. He objected to the elimination of 320 acres in one body specifically for the benefit of the railroad company when only 160 acres could be thus acquired. He says:

> In the second place, I preferred to make a much larger elimination of a tract facing the entire channel, and with sufficient room for a terminal railway town. I was willing to do this because I found the restrictions in the law sufficient to prevent the possibility of any monopoly of either the upland or the harbor or channel by the Controller Railway & Navigation Company or any other persons or company.

Iron-bound limitations as to securing title stand in the way of monopoly and the Controller Railway & Navigation Company's scrip locations cannot give it exclusive power over the harbor unless Congress should authorize it.

The President thus shows that he has provided, according to law, for the development of Controller Bay as a harbor while guarding against monopoly control. He shows that this was done after full consultation with the Secretaries of the Interior, Navy and Agriculture, the Land Commissioner and Chief Forester, and after submission of the matter to the Cabinet. He states that he went beyond what was advised as to the area of land opened and assumes full responsibility for so doing. He defines his policy as to Alaska in these words:

> I am in ful sympathy with the concern of reasonable and patriotic men that the valuable resources of Alaska should not be turned over to be exploited for the profit of greedy, absorbing, monopolistic corporations or syndicates. But every one must know that the resources of Alaska can never become available either to the people of Alaska, or to the public of the United States, unless reasonable opportunity is granted to those who would invest their money to secure a return proportionate to the risk run in the investment, and reasonable under all the circumstances.

The charge that the order was made secretly is refuted by the fact that ten days before it was made the details were given out by the Interior Department and were carried by the Associated Press.

This plain statement of the csae and of the reasons for the President's action produces no impression on Mr. Pinchot. He repeats his former statements in face of Mr. Taft's declarations. He repeats that the land was opened without notice, though it is proved that the intention to open it was given all publicity. He insists that Ryan was given an opportunity to monopolize Controller Bay, though the President asserts that the law guards against such monopoly and that no opportunity for monopoly can exist without authority of Congress.

Pinchot thus sets his word against Taft's. Is Pinchot such a close observer of the law that he should be believed in preference to the President? The Controller Bay waterfront was part of the Chugach National forest until the President threw it open, and Mr. Pinchot says it should have remained so. By what law? It was not needed to grow forest, but as the site of wharves and of seaport towns. Its inclusion in a National forest may have been justified as a temporary measure until the forest boundaries had been accurately defined; after that it was clearly illegal and it was the plain duty of the President to eliminate it. But Mr. Pinchot says:

> It was the President's duty to hold the terminal lands around Controller Bay in Government ownership. As with the coal lands, the title to the harbor lands, which are the key to the coal lands, should have been held, in any event, until Congress could act. In the meantime, contrary to the general impression, the very fact that these lands were in a National forest made them fully and promptly available under lease for every proper use, yet held them subject to Government supervision and control.

In other words, if the forest reserve law is not broad enough to suit Mr. Pinchot's theories, he would make it broad enough by his own decree. He would include in a forest reserve any natural resource—waterfront land, water power, coal land, anything which he thinks should be conserved—and then have the Forest Service establish rules under which they should be used. He would constitute himself custodian by divine right of the resources of the country superior to the President, Congress and the courts. Any official who allows any individual to acquire title to a piece of land which has once been included in a National forest is, in his estimation, a landgrabber and friend of monopoly.

Mr. Pinchot's theory, as now enunciated, is fully in line with his practice when he was Chief Forester. His so-called forests include whole broad valleys which are devoid of any vegetation larger than sagebrush. When Congress, after a bitter fight with him, passed a law providing that agricultural land within forest reserves might be homesteaded, he retained in the forests the most valuable tracts of farming land on the pretext that they were needed for administrative or some other visionary purpose. He threw every obstacle in the way of the homesteader and some of his practices continue to this day. He harried and worried cattlemen and sheepmen and included in the forests land which was worthless for anything but grazing. In plain defiance of law he sent hundreds of men in the employ of the Forest Service to college at Government expense.

While Mr. Pinchot's fanatical enthusiasm drives him to lawlessness in one direction, his muckraking associates resort to forgery. The notorious Dick-to-Dick postscript is despaired of as campaign material, even by Representative Graham, and has served only to discredit the whole campaign against the Controller Bay order.

A FRENCH DUEL.

All the world but France laughs at French duels. At home they are still taken with tremendous seriousness. In the duel between Henry Bernstein and Maurice Pujo the other day seven rounds were fought with swords and neither combatant suffered anything worse than a scratch or two. Then the seconds called off the fight. The quarrel arose out of the riots attending the exhibition of Bernstein's play, "Apres Moi," which was supposed by some ardent souls to be unpatriotic.

Nobody is ever killed in a French duel, but the affair is always arranged with as much solemnity as if a regiment were to be offered up to the deity of "honor." If a man declines to take a hand in the ridiculous performance after being challenged he loses his "honor," is called a coward by everybody and finds society closed to him. Why it is cowardly to refuse to do what requires no bravery and incurs no danger has never been explained. French notions about the duel are a little singular, as they are about the education of young girls and the institution of marriage. That nation is almost the only one in Europe where personal encounters are still a popular institution.

The duel lingers in Germany, but not among the people. It is confined to university students and soldiers. The Emperor believes that his soldiers and officers ought to fight with each other about points of honor because their bravery would deteriorate if they did not. In order to keep their courage up to the sticking place they must occasionally taste of blood. It is only in England and the United States that the idea of fighting a duel provokes a smile. In this country a person who kills his adversary in a personal encounter with swords or pistols commits murder, but that is not the real reason why it has gone out of fashion. We have seen how ridiculous the duel is and that has brought it into disrepute.

Almost the last notable challenges which have been issued in the United States were written by Southern bullies to the friends of Charles Sumner after he had been half killed by Preston Brooks in the Senate chamber. Brooks was a perfect sample of the man of "honor." He attacked Sumner from behind and pounded him over the head with a cudgel until he was insensible. Very likely the popularity of the duel in France indicates that the civilization of that country, brilliant as it is, still lacks something of Anglo-Saxon perfection.

MR. BRYAN'S CATECHISM.

Senator Bailey's comment on Mr. Bryan's "catechism" of prospective Democratic Presidential candidates is delicious. He declares that the Nebraskan's list of interrogatives is "impudent." If anything could be more impudent than Mr. Bailey's presence in the United Staes Senate it would be interesting to hear of. He ought therefore to be an excellent judge of what is decorous and what is not. Still in this instance we think he may be mistaken.

Mr. Bryan's catechism is not addressed directly to the candidates. He printed it in the Commoner in the form of a suggestion to his subscribers. Assuming that as American citizens they were interested in the political opinions of the various men whom they may be called to vote for or against in the next Presidential election he wrote out a list of questions which he supposed would bring them into the light. None of the readers of the Commoner are obliged to send these interrogatories to Governor Harmon or Governor Wilson and no candidate who received a copy of them need answer unless he wants to. He need not say boo if he prefers to keep silent. In view of these facts, it is a little difficult to perceive where the "impudent dictation" which Mr. Bailey reprobates so fiercely comes in.

There seems to be more or less ground for the belief that Mr. Bailey belongs to a little group, as influential as it is quiet, which prefers to name the next Democratic candidate for President. They assert the right to do this by virtue of their wealth and their powerful connections, and naturally they resent the intrusion of Mr. Bryan into a field which they have pre-empted and to which they feel that they have a sacred and exclusive property right. They would resent with quite as much heat the intrusion of anybody else not belonging to the charmed circle.

Mr. Bryan's position is that the only chance for Democratic success lies in heeding the popular desires which have already given the party control of the House of Representatives. The questions which he has formulated relate directly to these wishes of the people. Any candidate who refused to answer them or who gave unsatisfactory answers would undoubtedly find himself repudiated by the voting masses, while if he were asked nothing about his opinions he might slip through without difficulty. Hence it is easy to understand the dislike of politicians like Bailey and the persons whom he speaks for to this "catechism."

It is pretty searching. We do not wonder that it excites the ire of shady politicians. There are thirteen of the interrogatories and each one of them goes to the heart of a vital issue. Take the first one, for example, "Do you favor a tariff for revenue only?" Imagine Mr. Bailey's plight were he compelled to answer yes or no. The slippery Texan has devised a most ingenious tariff theory for the express purpose of evading questions of this sort. Ask him whether he wants a revenue tariff or not and he will answer that he is constitutionally opposed to abating the duties on raw materials until we have free manufactures. Since tariff reduction must evidently begin somewhere, Mr. Bailey thus puts himself in a position to avoid action on the subject forever. Between the duties on raw materials and those on manufactures he stands like the indecisive ass between two bundles of hay which starved to death because it could make no choice.

Or take the tenth question, "Do you believe in publicity of campaign contributions?" Now there is no "practical politician" on earth who does not in his secret heart abhor publicity of campaign contributions. Mr. Bailey especially abhors it because his financial refreshments are drawn from singularly malodorous refrigerators. A man like Harmon would not hesitate to say that he did believe in publicity of contributions because he is honorable and wants no success which is not honestly gained. Nor can we imagine Woodrow Wilson squirming at the thought of telling who has given him money for his election expenses. But for Mr. Bailey the case is far different. He wishes to keep under cover because he has a great deal which sadly needs covering.

Searching as Mr. Bryan's questions are, they ask for nothing which any honest statesman ought to wish to keep secret about his opinions. The election of a President is a very important act for the voters. It is perfectly right for them to learn as much as possible about any man who asks for their suffrages. If he has opinions which he is ashamed of or afraid to publish is he quite the proper person to choose for chief magistrate?

The innuendo that Mr. Bryan is by this catechism preparing the way for his own candidacy, a fourth candidacy after three failures, is absurd. Like every other intelligent American, he takes a lively interest in public affairs and tries by a number of perfectly legitimate methods to make his opinions count. He differs from most of his countrymen only by being a little more intelligent and active. From Mr. Bailey he differs by being a good deal more frank.

TRUSTS WOVEN TOGETHER.

The inter-weaving into one body of several trusts is brought out by the report on the harvester trust, which has just come to light. This is shown to be so closely allied to the steel trust that several of the directors of the two trusts are identical and the steel trust pays rebates to the harvester trust on steel used in making machines for export. The harvester trust is allied to the oil trust by the family connections of the Rockefellers and McCormicks. Thus there has been built up a community of interest among three of the greatest trusts as among the great railroads, and in both instances J. P. Morgan was the builder.

These facts came to light through the presentation to the Stanley committee of the report of B. D. Townsend on the harvester trust, but they have long been suspected. The tendency to combine the trusts in alliance is as strong as the tendency to organize the trusts themselves. It is part of the movement to concentrate control of the wealth of the country in a few hands, which would culminate in the rule of a financial oligarchy such as ruled Venice in the Middle Ages. Not only do the same men rule several of the great trusts, but they own the greatest banks and the greatest railroads. Even when the heads of the steel trust own no stock in a railroad they can dictate its policy by a threat to divert the immense traffic they control. The execution of such a threat might wipe out the profits of some railroads. The same statement is true as to other trusts.

As trusts and railroads are jointly controlled and as railroads are controlled by trusts and trusts by railroads, joint control of great banks has grown up, all by the same small number of men. Not only this, but the great banks are reaching out after control of the smaller banks. The National City Bank, which is the bank of the Rockefellers and Morgans, the biggest trusts and the biggest railroads, openly seeks to facilitate this control by organizing a subsidiary company to hold the stocks of other banks. Such a company may become the means by which the strongest financial power in the country will reach out its tentacles into every city and control its financial policy.

ADVICE TO NEWCOMERS.

The inquiry of "a newcomer" published elsewhere today is one of several communications of the same tone that have reached The Oregonian recently. As the writers seem to be really seeking light, it is well to explain just how impossible is the task these newcomers have set in their own minds for the Government and state officers in Oregon. According to general land office reports, the area of surveyed and unsurveyed public lands in Oregon, subject to entry and settlement on July 1, 1910, was 17,880,673 acres. This area is practically equivalent to the combined areas of the settled states of Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont. Some of this open Government land is mountainous and the remainder is scattered throughout a district where qualities of soil and possibilities of farming development are governed by a variety of topographic and climatic conditions. It is distributed throughout a state larger than New England with half of New York thrown in. To expect a Government or state land agent or anybody else to say that this or that quarter section has so many acres of bottom land, or so much timber growth, or is hilly or flat or will grow potatoes but not peaches or vice versa is out of the question. There are more than 100,000 open quarter sections in the state.

There are six United States land offices in Oregon, and in each several millions of acres of land, about which the Land Office officials know but little, for the reason that they are not charged with any such duties. Where they do know anything about the lands open for settlement the officials are almost uniformly courteous and attentive. But the register of the Portland Land Office would probably not know anything about the land in the other districts, any more than the register of the Lakeview district would have knowledge of the land around Portland.

A landseeker must first decide in his own mind which portion of the state he wishes to settle in. This done, he should decide whether he wants arid or humid land. If the former, he must then decide whether he wishes irrigated or dry farming land; if the latter, the price he wishes to pay, for as a rule it may be said that there is very little homestead land left in the humid sections. There are arid lands to be taken under the homestead laws, in tracts of 160 acres, and in places 320 acres. These lands as a rule are what are known as dry farming lands as the rainfall in the vicinity is below the amount relied upon under general farming methods to mature full crops.

There are also lands to be taken under the various Carey projects, the Government irrigation projects and under the desert land law, and in addition there are claims open for sale or settlement under the timber and stone acts. Indeed, it would take several pages of The Oregonian to explain just how and where public or semi-public lands may be secured, and the price, and other pages to point out the localities where cheap farming lands may be secured from private owners on reasonable terms.

If the writer of the communication wanted to invest in a box of writing paper he would probably not go to a paper mill; he would undoubtedly go to some retailer of the article. And just the same is true of the land business; the best person to set one right is the real estate agent—the man who investigates and knows about the lands because that is his business. And as a rule the land agents or real estate agents are just as reliable as any other class of business men.

Land agents can be found in any land district who can tell more or less about every quarter section of vacant land in the district, and for this they will make no charge unless they satisfy the inquirer and locate him. Or one can look out his own location approximately and then go to the Land Office in which the land is situated and get a plat of the township desired for a dollar. Then he can find a corner to start with and run out the lines himself. The plat will show which lands are vacant and which are filed on. If a claim satisfactory is found the officials at the Government Land Office will no doubt make out the filing papers without charge, or this will be done by any land agent for a dollar or two.

The Land Office fees for public lands will average about $8 per quarter section upon filing and a little more than that upon making final proof, except for timber and stone lands, for which the price is $2.50 per acre, payable at time of making proof. Under the Carey and Government irrigation projects the prices are from $17.50 to $60 per acre, one-fifth to one-tenth down, balance in from five to ten equal payments. Desert lands, or lands taken under the desert act, cost $1.25 per acre, payable after the lands have been reclaimed, or water is upon a certain portion of each claim.

Full particulars for taking any of the public lands may be had without charge from any Government land official. In addition, the Portland Chamber of Commerce has an information bureau equipped with data concerning every profitable farm industry in Oregon. It has prepared books and pamphlets answering almost every conceivable question which may be obtained for the asking. While there are countless opportunities in Oregon for homesteekers it must be remembered that opportunity will ordinarily not come to the man who sits in a hotel office waiting for something to turn up.

"The universal language" of thirty years ago, Volapuk, perished long before its inventor. His name was Johann Martin Schleyer and he has just died at Constance 80 years old. It will be interesting to see whether Esperanto or its inventor, Dr. Zamenhof, will die first. Usually the life of a universal language is brief. They come in with the Spring fashions and go out with the first frosts of Fall. Perhaps it will be different with Esperanto. Time will tell.

Of course, Governor West was "bluffing" when he issued the implied threat that he would veto the appropriation for an Oregon exhibit at the San Francisco exposition unless Wilde was given up to the Oregon authorities. Oregon will not grant that appropriation to help San Francisco, but to help Oregon. Wilde or no Wilde, we shall not be in a frame of mind to cut off our nose to spite our face.

We are not a bit surprised to learn that the Rev. Mr. Cowman, of Sherwood, raises better celery than they do in Kalamazoo. Long, long ago it was promised to such as he that he should be like a garden planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth its celery in season. Its leaves shall not wither, the rust shall not touch it, "and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Good work for home industry is being done by the "made in Oregon" movement of the Manufacturers' Association of the Northwest. The association has enlisted the support of fifty newspapers of Oregon in the work of inducing the people to give preference to Oregon products and has procured the location of many factories in the state.

The man who produced strawberries of the value of $300 from one acre had a favorable market as incentive to hard work. Every acre in the Northwest will not produce like result, for many must be devoted to potatoes and onions and other articles on the bill of fare of the devotee of high living.

Senator La Follette has peculiar ideas of what it means to receive information in confidence. He receives the information after the informant has laid down the conditions, then says he will not comply with them. It is not safe to talk to some men without witnesses.

Having heard from the people, Secretary Wilson recommends that Dr. Wiley be "admonished" instead of "fired." The question naturally suggests itself: What is to be done to the men who conspired to have him "fired?"

It cost Tetrazzini $19,250 to break her contract with Hammerstein and sing at Lotta's fountain in San Francisco. But some women will have their way at any cost.

Tim Woodruff, deposed Republican leader in Kings County, N. Y., was a relic of the Platt days. His gorgeous vests may be missed, but he will not.

The wealthy, do-nothing Louise Swan has committed social suicide and a useful, working Louise Swan has takn her place.

Bailey of Texas resigned again yesterday. The country is becoming resigned to Bailey.

Before bunco men "take on" any more "easy marks," it would be well to inquire whether they are from Culdesac, Idaho.

The business of Seattle's red auto burglar can hardly pay running expenses. It needs scientific management.

People who stay out after hours will be run in.

PATRONAGE OF WATER ROUTE

Writer Suggests Immediate Action to Protect Interest Portland Merchants.

PORTLAND, Or., July 26.—(To the Editor.)—Referring to the editorial in this morning's issue, concerning the order of the Interstate Commerce Commission decision, it seems to be in naming an amelioration of conditions for Portland in the advent of the coming of the Panama Canal, The Oregonian is creating a hiatus of at least two years which will be very perplexing for us if we have to wait that long. October 15 is very close at hand. The present freight schedules between Chicago and Portland range from $10.50 to $60 per ton. They will average about $25 per ton when the quantity of movement of each schedule is figured upon. What the merchant of Portland has to confront them, is, that if the present freight rate is maintained, the merchant in Spokane and its zone will pay $26.75, or an increase of seven per cent. Now, $1.75 will not more than put the average ton from here to The Dalles, and will thus leave Portland in the lurch for any business east of the Cascades, except at a freight disadvantage, which would be ruinous. What the merchants of Portland should do, it seems to me, is to organize as one man to institute the means of defense available, anticipate the full measure of benefit the completion of the canal will give us, by using the Mexican road across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and the Panama road now operated by Uncle Sam.

The Tehuantepec road is only 102 miles long from the Mexican Gulf to Salina Cruz, and it was recently stated has completed facilities for delivering 10,000 tons of freight daily and delivering into shipping at each terminal. I do not know how much can be transported at Panama, but probably not over 1000 tons daily.

It is assumed that Portland receives about 1000 tons of eastern freight daily. I feel pretty well convinced that the merchants of Portland, acting as a unit, could contract with some reliable shipping firm for the movement of that amount of tonnage at an average of $10 per ton, including the rail charge at Tehuantepec or Panama. As the Interstate Commission would be avidly alive to the making of reasonable rates from Portland interiorward, it must be assumed that if the railroad companies will concede a rate of not in excess of two cents per ton per mile the Railroad Commissions, state and National, will. Thus we will be enabled to get freight from New York to Spokane for not in excess of $17 per ton, against a probable railroad rate from Chicago to Spokane of $26.75.

As soon as the Panama Canal is completed we may reasonably expect to get freight from New York to Portland for $5 per ton, and by the same process of figuring, to Spokane for $12 per ton.

As to the question of time in transit for the delivery of freight via Tehuantepec, which some might deem to be disadvantageous, it is a fact that average freight is not delivered from Chicago to Portland in less than 25 days, and steamer freight can be received in the same time.

With over 2000 miles of river navigation as one of Portland's advantages for business over any Coast rival, which will assist and complement railroad service and at the same time act as a potential factor in fixing rates, Portland need have no fear of the ultimate future.

I am therefore very glad the Government Commission has done its duty in removing the outrageous system of rates charged to the interior, and the merchants of Portland can, if they will assist this city to pave the way now to accelerate her vast commercial future.

CHARLES P. CHURCH.

In its comments The Oregonian by no means suggested that relief for Portland would await the benefits that will accrue from the completion of the Panama Canal. The possibility that the origin of Portland's freight would move eastward where water competition is now available was suggested. This the writer has elaborated. He however seems to overlook the fact that Spokane jobbers must pay a distributive rate as well as Portland jobbers. If the differential on freight from Missouri River points will permit us to lay down goods in The Dalles at the rate the Spokane jobber can lay them down in Spokane, Portland is certainly not shut out of all territory east of The Dalles by Spokane competition. Another thing that Mr. Church, and the Spokane enthusiasts as well, overlook, is that the Spokane rate decision puts the jobbing houses now or to be established in Walla Walla, Colfax, Moscow, Pendleton, Baker and other interior cities, on a parity with Spokane houses. Portland is absolutely secure in its water transportation. This cannot be taken away by railroad rate adjustments. Its competitors have been multiplied but if there is a setback at all it will be but temporary.

Plaint of Homeseeker.

PORTLAND, July 27.—(To the Editor.)—Since arriving in Portland we have been reading The Oregonian and would like to say we find it very reliable indeed. While we are not in the habit of finding fault, we certainly will be pleased to have answers to the following:

Why is it when new parties, who never owned a foot of land and don't know how to find the public lands or how to buy them, cannot get information at the land office in Portland without knowing just where they wish to go and what section they are looking up? If they don't know all about what they wish to know themselves and be able to tell the officials in charge, they simply cannot find a thing and they get a glance of indifference that makes a newcomer homesick at once. What are they paid to do anyway?

Isn't there some way, when Oregon advertises school lands and thousands of other kinds of public lands for sale, that new people can find how and where to reach them?

We wrote to the Public Land Board at Salem and all we got was, "where do you want land?" or "no school lands on market in such and such a place," or "we cannot give you a description of what the lands are like;" in fact no information was given at all that will help a person entirely ignorant of the subject.

A NEWCOMER.

Margaret's Prayer.

Harper's Weekly.

Please listen, God. Just this one night
I want to beg; it's not polite.
I know. You 'member yesterday
You sent to Mollie, 'cross the way,
A brother—such a teeny mite.

He's rather red, but he's all right.
Do send one here. I need one quite
As much as she; that's why I say,
"Please listen, God!"

Even a black one, 'stead of white,
I'd think quite cute; and Mother might
Not mind. What lovely games we'd play!
What clothes I'd make of colors gay!
Do send one. Though you're not in sight,
Please listen, God!

Dream Time.

BY M. E. K.

Amid the silent places, where the nesting birds
Their love-notes utter to a listening earth,
Where sprouting seedling and the awakening bud
Whisper together in the joy of birth;
Amid the silent places, where the stars bend low,
Wheeling their awful flight beyond our ken,
Where Time is not, and only Love remains,
There God holds converse with the sons of men.

HOUSING OF THE LAW LIBRARY

Books Are a Great Aid to Judges of Circuit Court, Says Mr. Schnabel.

PORTLAND, July 26—(To the Editor.)—I have read with great care the objection, purporting to come from Judge McGinn, to having Multnomah County house the Law Library in the new Courthouse, and want to challenge such objection as not well taken.

Every person in this community is, or should be, interested in this library. The Law Library is primarily for the benefit of the court in deciding cases, and it is to the advantage of the people to have the courts do so. To my mind it is just as proper and necessary for the State of Oregon to furnish its judges with suitable working tools (i. e. inter-alia law books), as it is to furnish them a room in which to hold court.

The present Law Library is worth about $40,000. It sprang into being about 20 years ago, when a few lawyers associated themselves together and bought a few books as a nest egg. I was one of the charter members, and, if I am correctly informed, each member has contributed towards the library since that time between $350 and $400. The library has never paid a dividend, and none will be paid or received, but instead the money received has gone and will go into new books.

There are communities in the United States where law libraries are created and maintained by the people by direct taxation. And I am satisfied that there is not a lawyer having stock in the original library association who would not be willing to turn over his stock to Multnomah County, and thus make the county a present of $40,000 worth of law books in consideration of the county housing them.

It should also be borne in mind that at the time this law library was started, a committee of lawyers applied to the County Court for and were given its present quarters. This permission has extended over twenty years. There are several large office buildings in the City of Portland that would gladly house these books free of expense. Many of the attorneys in the City of Portland have large working libraries of their own, and, therefore, do not need to use the library at the Courthouse, but, as public-spirited citizens, they have given to this library freely of their time and money, and out of pride in the bench and bar of the county they have desired to supply the court with the necessary working tools, practically free of expense to the county or state.

With the acquisition of our new National possessions and the completion of the Panama Canal, the scope of litigation on this Coast will be broadened. This will necessitate the buying of more books and to scatter the nucleus we now have would, it seems to me, be unwise and the height of folly.

Suppose we do away with the library—divide it among its members—and suppose the court, not to have a library of its own, but desiring to inform itself, our judges would be reduced to the necessity of either hiking to the State Library at Salem or resorting to the various private law libraries to consult their books—a thing no self-respecting judge could do with any kind of propriety.

I am satisfied that if this question were thoroughly understood by the laity and could be submitted to them on a direct vote, they would be only too glad to give to the library the space and necessary funds that might be required for its upkeep. I will take chances on the people voting right on this question. CHAS. J. SCHNABEL.

Emerson or Not.

PORTLAND, July 27.—(To the Editor.)—In reply to "Emerson or Not?" In as much as several magazines have given space to this same question and have let it drop with result of some attributing it to Emerson while others aver it is undoubtedly from the pen of Elbert Hubbard. The writer is not intending to answer. However, being a great admirer of the philosophy of each, she had it placed on a Roycroft screen in her place of business under the name of Emerson. While Hubbard was visiting Portland several months ago his attention was drawn to the same and before noticing the name Emerson he was heard to say: "Dear Old Emerson—He Knew."

J. L. STOCKBRIDGE.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian, July 28, 1861.

New mail routes in Oregon and Washington established by law of 1861.

OREGON.

From Salt Lake City via the Wallen route to Dalles in Oregon.

From the City of Portland via Philip Foster's across the Cascade Mountains to old Fort Walla Walla.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

From Dalles via Clickitat Valley via Simcoe and Okinkaine.

From Oakland to Grays Harbor.

Miners from California for the Nez Perces are still arriving here in large numbers by the southern stage. That of Friday night brought 17 passengers. At the present rate of movement there will be 5000 persons in the Nez Perces mines by October. Our last news from thence was satisfactory.

The cost of the city flagstaff as it now stands on the public square is $6147.

We have very late reports to the effect that some of those who went out from Eugene to prospect have returned on the sly, gave their friends the wink and went back without 50 of them. We don't believe a word of this story. We are told, however, it is causing a good deal of excitement in some neighborhoods. If the "Three Sisters" have not some gold on hand, we don't know what they are good for.

Brad's Bit o' Verse

(Copyright, 1911, by W. D. Meng.)

Consider how the midnight lark brought ruin to an easy mark. An honored citizen of Rome, with loving wife and kids at home, it surely is a tale most sad how Antony went to the bad. He made a speech at Caesar's bier which for its wisdom has no peer; the papers played it up in form—plebe and patrician called it warm. Old Marcus might have won, hands down, for any office in town; he might have been an alderman; but booze and banquets queered the plan. When Caesar died he left a will that put one Pompey on the grill; so when the divvy came to hand, Marc found himself in Egypt land. It may have been the climate there, it may have been the charmer fair; but anyhow, ere very long, he fell for woman, wine and song. His poor neglected wife at home set up a howl that silenced Rome; it was no use; he grew so lax he couldn't pay his sewer tax; his farm and garden went to weeds, and folks forgot his former deeds. One time, while sailing on the bay with Cleopatra blithe and gay, some Roman triremes hove in sight and Marc well knew there'd be a fight. He rushed on deck and shed his coat; but Little Egypt got his goat; she straightway took the homeward track and left old Marc to hold the sack. He followed her and left his slaves to mercies of the winds and waves. He hunted up his lady fair but found the young Octavius there. "Gadzooks!" he cried; and "mercy sakes!," then took the venom of the snakes. The man who sports around at night is sure to come to some bad plight; his business goes unto the dogs, his brightest hopes are lost in fogs; and ten to one betrayed he'll be by some star-eyed affinity.

Advertising Talks

By William C. Freeman.

Henry M. Hulst, editor of the **Commonweal,** a publication issued at Greenwich, N. Y., in a recent issue analyzed the number of pieces of mail delivered by the rural free delivery through the Greenwich postoffice.

I am very glad to get this data because it is the most **convincing** argument in the world as to why the **Daily** newspaper is a valuable advertising medium.

The Government required an accurate count of all classes of mail handled in the month of May. The figures quoted by Mr. Hulst, which are printed below, were taken by him from the records of the Greenwich postoffice which were forwarded to the Postmaster-General, and he vouches for their **accuracy.**

In Route No. 1, the letters delivered were 1241, the **newspapers** delivered were 2348, magazines delivered were 346.

In Route No. 2, the letters delivered were 851, **newspapers** delivered were 1832, magazines delivered were 187.

In Route No. 3, the letters delivered were 780, **newspapers** delivered were 1832, magazines delivered were 178.

In Route No. 4, the letters delivered were 946, **newspapers** delivered were 2422, magazines delivered were 276.

In Route No. 5, the letter delivered were 1270, **newspapers** delivered were 2153, magazines delivered were 267.

In Route No. 6, the letters delivered were 1198, **newspapers** delivered were 2326, magazines delivered were 246.

Rural free delivery has made the newspaper really a daily magazine, which goes into the home and which is read with much more interest than the average magazine, because the news matter in the newspaper is fresh and up to the minute.

What is true of Greenwich, which is a typical country postoffice, is equally true of other country postoffices, and these facts should be of **immense value to the general advertiser who wants** to secure **distribution into the homes.**

(To be continued.)

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

(Copyright, 1911, by George Matthew Adams)

There is a good deal of "talk" about a certain woman because she doesn't wash her supper dishes, but piles them up on the kitchen table until morning. A neighbor "spoke to her" about the bad habit, and the culprit said: "Huh! Half the women do it! Do they?

It is surprising how near crazy some people can be, and keep out of the asylum.

When a man recommends his favorite patent medicine to an invalid, he says: "No doctor will prescribe it; the doctors don't want you to get well."

What has become of the hand grenade that a few years ago was going to prevent conflagrations?

After a man has settled down to a quiet married life four or five years, a rapid pace a few nights would kill him.

You have not been completely taken into a man's confidence until he has abused his kin to you.

Occasionally I look at a man's ears, and it seems to me I have never before seen anything so funny or ridiculous. In the same way, I occasionally encounter a word in common use that looks so odd that I am almost willing to believe that I have never before seen anything like it.

Even a man who is willing to be a scoundrel, objects to being called one.

Do you remember that, when a boy, you insisted on acting mean until you got a whipping? And you occasionally do the same thing now that you are grown, unless you are wiser than most men.

Acceptance of Testaments.

LONDON, Or., July 26.—(To the Editor.)—Did the council that collected the manuscripts of the Old and New Testaments into the two volumes as we now have them vote on the acceptance or rejection of them into the canon?

Did the Roman Catholic Church demand or require a fee or tithe for administering the rite of baptism to infants or adults?

The acceptance of the Testaments was not all settled by one council, and the canon of the Old Testament was partly settled by the Jews, but, generally speaking, it was determined by vote. The answer to the second question is "no."

Sherlock Holmes

Encounters Black Peter in

THE SUNDAY OREGONIAN

One of the most thrilling of the **Sherlock Holmes** series will appear in Sunday's magazine section. The master detective here measures wits with a master rogue—and wins after endless exciting experiences. The tale covers more than a page, with illustrations, and is complete in the one issue.

How was the battleship Maine really destroyed in Havana Harbor? While the final answer is not yet at hand, some startling developments are disclosed in an illustrated half-page on the present Governmental investigation.

Of unusual interest is a full page on the perpetuation of the great salmon industry in Oregon. There is a lot of valuable information, interestingly arrayed, in this feature.

Making up, its origin and evolution, is made the subject of an attractive half page.

Queen Elizabeth of Roumania has taken the stand that the republic is the ideal form of government. Several columns are devoted to her views, in which she avers that the lot of royalty is a cruel one.

Another popular song hit, **"Parlor Games,"** is made the half-page music feature.

More **Civil War photos,** a new **Widow Wise** adventure; stunts by **Sambo** and **Mr. Twee Deedle.**