# The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1911

#### PASSING OF THE OLD DAYS IN CEN-TRAL OREGON.

To say that Bend and Redmond, with the completion of the railroad, will bid adieu to the stage coach and freight wagon means only that these and other towns on the new rallways in Central Oregon will bid adleu to their own dependence for transportation upon these tedious land caravels of the days of romance and the pictiresque. The stage coach, or at least the auto stages, are not down and out in Central Oregon. Redmond, Bend, Mudras and other rallroad towns will see them during perhaps several years to come, but it will be only in vitnessing their departure to or arrival from points in a great territory as yet untouched by steel rails.

We of Portland, who but a short while ago knew of Bend and Redmond as isolated towns far in the interior and to be reached only by long and arduous travel over rough, dusty or muddy roads, do not all realize that two points are but on the western edge of Interior Oregon, Bend, which is to be the railway terminus for the present, is almost due east of Eu-It is nearly twice as far from Bend to the Idaho line as it is from Bend to the Pacific Ocean.
It is 150 miles from Bend to Burns,

and Burns is approximately the geographical center of Interior Oregon. A circle drawn with a 150-mile radius using Burns as a center, would inby railroads. The O.-W. R. & N. would touch it in the east at Vale; a narrow gauge road would enter a few miles on the northeast and the new would barely brush it at Hend.

Here lies a great district-as large is some of the Eastern states—rich in timber, minerals and agricultural land. new railroads, it is true, will serve a large and productive country directy tributary to them, but, until they are estended, a still greater country must depend for its transportation on the Concord coach, the six-horse freight wagon and the automobile.

These new rallroads, although more than 150 miles long, penetrate less than 50 miles farther into Central Oregon than does the Shanko branch of the O.-W. R. & N. But in points of rapid service and elimination of bad eagon roads they have brought Central Oregon the equivalent of several hun-dred miles nearer Portland. The old stage route from Prineville over Griz-Mountain, up Cow Creek Canyon I across the 17 miles of Shaniko t, which in extremes of weather ametimes held the four-horse stage thirty-six hours in its adobe clutches. a superseded. Princyille, still nearly twenty miles from the railroad, will gain rail access to the outside by traveling over a practically level road, good the year around, until it gets a milroad of its own. And so with the other towns of the unserved interior. The horse-killing highways may now be avoided and, once a railroad town s renched, the service found will be

direct and rapid. What the near future holds in store for Central Oregon still depends upon activities of the railroads. That have spent millions in laying ralls for 100 miles in the bottom of an inproductive canyon to reach only a strip of territory 50 miles long is imponceivable. The Deschutes railroads are destined to become the backme of a radiating system. Their builders have wagered a big stake the value of Interior Oregon as a traf-fic-producing section. The open counnow lies ahead in vast productive pialns and valleys. To reach into it is simple task in comparison with what they have accomplished. They must go on to protect their original invest-

They will go on

ment.

But should the railroads stand still awhile, the country will thrive amarngly under the added advantages of transportation it now possesses. driving of the golden spike this week will be the opening of the days of infustry, civilization and wealth. The lack of railroads in a country is a bar to the entrance of many of the things which go to make up modern civilized Almost all of those things must taken in "from outside," a phrase used in undeveloped sections of country which is in itself eloquent of their Settlement is following the rallroads into Central Oregon and civilisation will advance with settlement. it is pushing back primitive conditions into more remote sections and depriv ing fiction writers of much material for good stories. But the new condiwill provide material for many other stories of a different kind, and none will mourn, except those who harbor a sentimental regret for the good old times which owe their charm to the fact that we don't realize how

SECRETARY FISHER'S TASK.

Secretary of the Interior Fisher has ords of his office and through his tour of the West how far the administra tion of the land laws has wandered from law and justice. He has found that his predecessors prior to Secreextreme of laxity to the extreme of severtty and that the efforts of Mr. Ballinger to strike that happy mean whereby every settler who has comalled with the spirit of the law gets patent without delay, were thwarted by a body of subordinates who had fallen into the rut Secretary Hitchsack and Cardeld had worn for them. He has found that great tructs of tree land have been included in forreserves and that, though the law provided for elimination of agri-

settlers from taking it. He has found forest reserves created to conserve coal land and water frontage on imaginary harbors to guard it against corporations which don't want it.

To correct this condition is the arduous task before Mr. Fisher, Many of the evils he cannot remedy until Congress revises the obsolete land laws, but many may be removed by changing the spirit in which the law is administered and the regulations under which it is interpreted. announced purpose and his past deeds are rich premise that he will do all he can in these directions. His declaration that he is for "the man on the has the right ring. His promland" ise to have contests promptly adjudi-cated will renew hope in the breast of many a poor settler whose application for patent grows yellow with age because of some special agent's mere suspicion.

But in order that he may accomplish what he has set out to do, it will necessary for Mr. Fisher to infuse new spirit into the army of men which actually does the work. A majority of these men have never rest of the Mississippi River, many of them never west of the Allegheny Mountains. What can they know about the conditions which confront a homesteader? Had each spent a year on an Oregon farm on the outskirts of settlement, each would know the men and the conditions with which he is dealing and could judge intelligently, justly and with a due admixture of that human sympathy which should enter into such decisions. At least the principal officials who have the handling of land cases should be required visit the public land areas of the West and remain long enough to ome familiar with what the settler is "up against." Then they would be more nearly equipped to decide whether any particular settler is endecide titled to a patent. Some of these officials are so encrusted with prejudice and are so uninformed that they are ignorant of their own ignorance. is hopeless to attempt to change their methods and they should be removed

for the good of the service.
In short, the evils which beset the Land Office are those which beset all bureaucracies and they grow as the bureau grows, but at a faster pace. They are the strongest argument for state control of the public land, for under that system the officials would be in close touch with the people with whom they deal and would have a clear understanding of the conditions surrounding those people.

TWO PARALLEL HORRORS.

The story of the flood at Austin few changes of names. There is the am weakened by torrents of rain letting loose a watery battering ram into planted itself.

In the case of Johnstown a country club composed of Pittsburg million-aires owned the dam; in the case of Austin a paper company is guilty. Whether for pleasure or business, the owners of the dam risked the lives of thousands of people to save a few thousand dollars. Greed and parsiony are close akin to murder. At Johnstown not one of the guilty was punished; we shall see whether hisry will repeat itself in this respect at Austin-if the blame can be pla

Even the succeeding fire at Austin had its parallel at Johnstown, though natural gas there was not the cause. In that case the wreckage, in which were entangled the bodies of many human beings and animals, piled against a stone railroad bridge and was burned, but the horrors of people being burned alive in sight and hearing of others, as at Austin, were escaped

WAR MAY STAY IN AFRICA.

Though Europe is buzzing with pre-dictions that Italy's seizure of Tripoll will prove to be but the prelude of a stack on Turkey by other powers for the purpose of securing compensation, it is probable that the war will be localized. Italy's desire for more territory will be gratified by the acquisition of Tripoli and she can capture that country with ease. her superior fleet. Italy can destroy that of Turkey" and prevent the land ing of reinforcements in Tripoli. The est towns of that country can then be taken and the Arab tribes of the ert can be subjugated at Italy's leisure. Italy's success is only a matter of time and perseverance.

That Italy will carry the war into European Turkey is improbable, for such a policy would bring endless en-tanglements. The landing of troops at Prevess would seem to indicate that intention, but it was more probably designed to obtain a base from which arms and supplies could be sent to the rebellious Albanians. The lat ter are the best fighters in Turkey and would serve to keep the Turkish army busy. Ald given them by the Italians be in the nature of a diversion for the purpose of increasing key's difficulties and hastening her

oncession of Italy's demands.

Were Italy to invade European Turkey, Greece would take it as the ignal for annexation of Crete and Thessaly and would also reach out after Macedonia; Servia would fight for part of the latter province and necessity of sweeping aside all these petty nations and advancing to her long-desired naval base at Salarian transfer in state authorities, sent the girl home pending consideration of the case by the Board of Education.

The father, a purpagious residues to the case by the Board of Education. long-desired naval base at Salonika. Then a general scramble for the heritage of the so-called "sick man of Europe" would begin. Knowing the desire of the great powers to preserve the much-loved status quo in the Balkan peninsula, which is the only condition under which a general war can be avoided, Italy has assured them that she will not extend the war to that quarter. Greece will therefore learn that she is mobilizing her army in Thessaly to no purpose or, if she it that commands considerate attention. The public schools of the United States are supposed to be, and goes to war, will do so at the risk of United States are supposed to be, and such another disastrous defeat as are hailed as, the cradle of patriotism, that in 1897. If Turkey should remain obdurate, Italy might be co pelled to extend the war into the Bajkans, but the united pressure of the powers would probably serve to bring Turkey to reason, as it has on many former occasions. The history of the war in Tripolt is likely to be a repetition of that of wars by which Britain

took Egypt and France took Tunis.
Italy's desire for colonies may have some indirect relation to this country. In order to hold her own among the great powers, lialy must maintain a large army, but she sees her military resources reduced by an ansands of her best young men to this country and South America. Like Japan and Germany, she wishes to find new homes for an overflow population where it will remain under iral land from such reserves, all Italian rule and subject to military

manner of devices are used to prevent duty. Her boundaries being too nar row for her population, she wishes to stretch them, that her people may expand within them instead of over-flowing them. Whether she will sucflowing them. Whether she will suc-ceed is doubtful, for very many Ital-ians come to the United States not to make money but to escape militarism, burdensome taxes and the endless conflicts of class and religion. Many Italians may emigrate to Tripoli, but the vast majority of emigrants will continue to flee from Italian rule

WILL PARTIES BE RE-ADJUSTED?

The present era of readjustment in polities and business will end in a new alignment of parties into Radicals and Conservatives, is the opinion of Samuel G. Blythe, expressed in an address at the Montana State Fair at Helena. He sees both parties split into Radical and Conservative factions and foresees the union of Conservatives of both parties as one party and of radicals of both parties as another party. The one will be the party of "let well enough alone," the other the party of advance. carelessness of the people has let political power pass to the hands of the few, big business abused its opportunities, and the two combined to the country. In Mr. Blythe's picturesque phraseology:

Power breeds arrogance and arrogance speeds contempt. Big husiness and his slittle both grew contemptuess. Each was to inflated its eyes awelled shut. Neither suld see. Neither cared to see.

Then came a protest, which has be ome a National protest, causing a partial readjustment, and it will continue until representative government is re stored in the hands of the people. Then the people will send to represent them men equal in statesmanship and ability to those who have misrepresented them. He evidently does not think much of some of the pretended pro gressive leaders, for he says:

There is ample occasion for just criti-of many of the men whom this mover has put into office. A good many of t are of no consequence. Mr. Blythe's rebirth of parties would be more likely if the existing parties were not hot rivals as to which should

comply with the popular demands The Republicans have done fairly well in the last ten years, and it is too early decide that the adverse sentence passed on the Payne-Aldrich tariff in 1910 will be confirmed as to the Taft Administration in view of President Taft's earnest campaign for real tariff reduction and the blundering attempt made at it in the last session of Congress.

In two consecutive Presidential elections the people have approved the Roosevelt policies, which aim to stop the abuses of big business and to break its grip on politics. Mr. Taft has continued those policies with greater enof them until their fulfillment may a narrow gorge, where Austin had fairly be said to be in sight. He has done more-he has added to them tariff reform and monetary reform. which are as essential to the square deal as are the regulation of railroads and dissolution of trusts. There is a reactionary element in the Republican party, but it has lost its grip and is struggling for existence in a losing fight against the new political methods which give the people political control, coming of less consequence It is every day.

The hope of the organization of new radical party rests seemingly in a coalition of insurgents with Democrats, but neither have shown any desire to sink their identity in such a coalition. The latter no sooner saw an opportu nity to win without insurgent aid than they threw the insurgents overboard No man has more vehemently denounced Democracy than Senator Cummins, one of the insurgent leaders,

The advance is being led by Mr. Tagt as fast as the mass of the people wish to travel and his party advances behind him. The presence in the ranks of a few Hotspurs, who think the pace too slow, and of a few laggards, who wish to stop and camp every mile, is no good cause for disbar and attempting to combine its several elements with like elements in a rival army. If a few leaders should desert, they could only carry a corporal's guard with them and might strength by removing a source of dis-

NEITHER CITIZEN NOR SUBJECT.

In the laudable attempt to inculcate principles of patriotism or at of loyalty to the Government under which they live and are being educated, the State of New Jersey has a law requiring pupils of the public schools to salute the American school year to renew the oath of allegiance to the Government.

Recently, for the first time in its history, a pupil of the public schools of Perth Amboy, in that state, refused either to salute the flag or renew the oath as required by law. The recalcitrant pupil is a girl of 14. She said that she acted under the instructions of her father, who, a man of middle age, has nearly all of his life lived in this country, but claims allegiance to Great Britain and has had his children at birth registered as British Upon her refusal to parsubjects. ticipate in the morning exercises the school, as required by law, the Superintendent of Schools, after con-

tion of the Stars and Stripes, meanwhile hied him to New York, where he laid the case before the British Pending a decision, the Consul. dren of the British-American subject

citizen are out of school. While this looks like "straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel." our institutions, a prime object in their establishment and maintenance is the inculcation of loyalty, which the cornerstone of good citizenship. In this view the National flag floats over tens of thousands of public school houses during the hours when schools are in session and pupils who are in attendance upon these deme cratic institutions are required, upon occasion, to "salute" the Nation em blem The oath of allegiance, as required of pupils of the publi schools of New Jersey, is not a gen eral requirement, but it can scarcely be regarded as an unreasonable since it is the visible sign, so to speak

of loyalty. In the case cited the children ar native-born Americans, the mother is an American by birth, but the father, although he has lived the greater part

of his life in America, scorns to be come a citizen of the great repub-lic, steadfastly maintaining his alle-giance to the British crown. He has, moreover, taken pains to have his children at birth, or soon thereafter. registered as subjects of Great Britain.

Whatever disposition is made of

this case, it is certainly a pity that a man so completely subservient to the traditions and ideals of a monarchial government persists in living as an allen in a hospitable land. The British possessions are wide. Why should so stalwart a son of Britain persist in making his home and bringing up his children outside of them? Certainly not for the good of the country that is his generous host, even to the extent of educating his children for him, only stipulating that they conform to the rules that govern the public schools. Of course, while there is no law that compels him to go hence, it may with great propriety be suggested to this man—and others if there be others of his type of John Bullism—that the proper place for him to set up a home and rear a family is somewhere—anywhere—un-der the British flag. Otherwise he is neither a subject nor a citizen, but simply a political neuter.

The McMinnville Walnut Growers Club will present ten pounds of firstlass Yamhill County walnuts to President Taft on his arrival in this city J. C. Cooper, president of the club, is now drilling on a presentation speech suited to the dignity of the recipient of the gift and to the quality of the home-grown product. This is proper and complimentary. The club will also present specimens of the best-known varieties of walnuts suited to this climate to the Oregon Agri-cultural College as an exhibit. This is proper and practical. We congratulate Walnut Club upon Its discern ment and generosity in the matter.

Portland commercial bodies well pay attention to the argument of H. P. Wood, of Honolulu, in favor of a steamship line between Portland and that point. With crops of sugar, pineapples, tobacco and cotton to ex-port, that port offers an opportunity to the shipping men and merchants of Portland which should not be neg-It can take in exchange our umber, fruit, salmon, furniture, flour and grain. With such a broad terriports and upon which to gather the exports, Portland should be able to keep a monthly steamer loaded both

The Japanese expedition to outh Pole is in trouble and is unkindly criticised by Japanese newspa pers. After setting out for the Ant-arctic in Winter and losing all its dogs through inexperience, it had to put back to Australia, refit and make fresh start. Its members excuse the small supply of food carried by saying the Japanese can get along on much less nourishment than white men, though they have no experience as to the amount of food required to sustain life in polar regions. Apparently there were no Japanese Dr. Cooks in the party.

A showroom for the display of American goods is to be opened by R. L. Romeo, American Vice-Consul at Alexandria, Egypt, who sees in it a means of securing to American man facturers a share of the trade in manufactured goods, of which Egypt now imports \$100,000,000 worth. The United States now supply about 1 per cen of this quantity. As Egypt has just marketed the most profitable cotton crop in its history, this may be an auspicious time for this enterprise.

Governor West has boasted that convicts are not working in competition with free labor, but he forgot about the 60 who were sent to pick hops to the exclusion of women and children. Hop-picking is the regular Summer outing of many poor families, which cannot afford a vacation in which they do not earn something, but they are deprived of it for the sake

If out of the seven or more tax neasures which may be submitted to the people at the next election, tw onflicting ones should be adopted, we shall have a muddle equal to that aused by the adoption of the two Columbia River fishing bills, which the begislature will be required to clar-

The exhibit at the Omaha Land Show by Felix Currin, of Cottage Grove, which won the silver cup for the best grain and grasses at the Eu gene fair, will convince doubting East. erners that what they read of Oregon in the newspapers has all the elements of truth.

The charge of murder against the chauffeur who caused a woman's death by giving her false information of her uaband's death is a novelty in criminal annals and will give the lawyers fine opportunity to exercise their wits.

A Malheur County man who set out fruit trees on three acres last Fall planted potatoes between the rows last Spring and has refused an offer of \$1000 for the crop. There are thousands of like opportunities awaiting grasp next year

"Tim" Woodruff denies that flying comes within the definition of sports forbidden by the New York Sunday It doesn't: In too many cases it is plain suicide.

Construction of a \$30,000 high chool is in progress at Vale, a little city that indulges in humor by call ing herself "the last frontier.

McNeil's Island for eight years will have proper respect for Uncle Sam when he leaves the place.

Paris is spending millions for a pure water supply, which destroys the opular fiction that Parislans avoid water. Now is the time for every fan to

"make medicine" cess of the Beavers. A new Turkish wrestler is coming this way, but the time is not propi

tious for Turks. The policeman on the corner hard ly knows "where he is at" in thes days of juggle.

It is just as well the Beavers went South, for this is football weather.

SPECULATORS SHOULD BE BARRED, IN DEFENSE OF MIRACLE WHEAT Writer Would Exclude Them From Oregon Advertising Pamphlets.

PORTLAND, Sept. 28 .- (To the Editor.)-In this morning's issue of The Oregonian is printed an article on the value of farm lands in Oregon with particular reference to the Umatilla project. Director Newell, of the United States Reclamation Service quoted to the effect that the speculative values that are being placed or these lands and others through state is doing more to hold back the development of this state than any I want to say that this is absolutely

a fact. I have had evidence of it in several ways, both on the ground in personal contact with the people that ame to Oregon to settle, and recently in the East in conversation with people who were interested in this coun ry. I did a little missionary work mong the farmers of a certain county n Michigan one day in the interest of bregon. I was seeking information of Oregon. I was seeking information of several kinds to use in connection with my business, which is along the lines of colonization. I was surprised to find how well informed these farmers were on conditions here. Over half of those to whom I talked knew some one that had gone from his neighborhood to Oregon and settled. He had corresponded with him and every one had replied that there is some wonderfully good land to be had but that the speculators are putting the price up to a lators are putting the price up to a point that is impossible. They there-fore had decided to stay where they were rather than sell and go to the ex-

were rather than sell and go to the expense of moving to Oregon and then find themselves with less land than at the start, and raw land at that.

We spend a great deal of time and energy to advertise Oregon to the farmers of the Middle West. We permit the speculators to undo all our work as fast as we do it by keeping the people out with impossible prices. We should take some means to stop it. In the latter part of the article D. O. Lively is quoted to the effect that the land is not being held at too high figures. That if the farmer can net 10 per cent the price is \$100, if 30 per Jand is not being held at too figures. That if the farmer can net 10 per cent the price is \$100, if 30 per cent, \$300 an acre. Does Mr. Lively think that the farmers of the Middle West and East will go to the expense and trouble of moving West and taking up some of this land—land which he must spend much effort and money that the contract of the co on to put under cultivation—and pay such prices? Will he permit Mr. Lively and his associates to discount the fu-ture for him, and take to themselves ture for him, and take to themselves the natural profits and increase in value that by rights goes to the pioneer settlers in a new country? Can we get settlers on our land if we do not offer them a better proposition than they now have back East? Can we expect to get settlers if all they can make is a small interest on their investment—and disregard their time?

No man except the farmer disregards

No man except the farmer disregards his time, and the farmer is getting wise now, too, at least the kind that we can hope to attract to Oregon are. I would suggest that the Commercial Club and Chamber of Commerce together with the Harriman lines dis-criminate against the land speculators in their advertising literature and in their replies to inquiries. Perhaps then the prices would be reduced to a fair basis, including a fair profit. AN OREGONIAN.

CANVAS COVERS IN ORCHARDS Vancouver Grower Thinks Cost Pro hibitive for Prune Trees.

VANCOUVER, Wash, Sept. 30. the Editor.)-I notice an item in The Oregonian of September 25 from Vancouver advising the use of canvas covering to protect the fruit trees from

the effects of rainy weather.

Now, to my way of thinking, this is ne of the most absurd suggestions I ever heard proposed by a rational be The prune orchards of Clark ing. County contain on an average about 25 acres each, or about 3000 trees to the orchard. Many of these trees are 20 feet in diameter at the top and will probably average a height of not less quire a canvas 20 feet square each tree, or 6000 square feet of can-vas to cover an orchard of 2000 trees. To adjust this canvas would require the labor of half dozen men to the acre, an army of las men

As sunlight and air are important As sunlight and air are important factors in developing perfect fruit, these canvas covers would have to be removed "when the clouds rolled by." The services of these men must be retained until there is no longer danger from storms. It will be seen that the expense of these men would make the scheme impracticable, leaving out of consideration the additional expense of canvas and rope.

canvas and rope.

Will the Vancouver farmer explain to an eager and anxious public his method of adjusting this hood canvas on his fruit trees? If he will show us his scheme is sensible and the expense not prohibitive, he may yet achieve enduring fame.

R. F. D. 3, Vancouver, Wash. Reflective Quality of Wall Paper

Exchange.

In painting or papering the walls of a room the question often arises what color reflects the most and what the least light. Recent experiments in Ger least light. Recent experiments in Germany gave the following results: Dark blue reflects 614 per cent of the light falling upon it, dark green about 10 per cent, pale red a little more than 16 per cent, dark yellow 20 per cent, pale blue 20 per cent, pale blue 20 per cent, pale per cent pale green the green pale per cent, pale green 46 % per cent, pale orange nearly 55 per cent, white 70 per cent. Glossiness and varnish increase the amount of light reflected.

When Bobble entered college, A Freshman, green was he.
The third day out, the Soph'mores
Gave him the "third degree,"
And when his hand got well enough,
He wrote back home this line of stuff:

"Dear Dad-I'm strapped. Please send A hundred bucks to me, To settle with the doctor Who set my back and knee. (Said knee received a loving pat From a big Soph'more's baseball bat.)

"I too must pay the alienist Who tinkered up my brain, After they'd tied me to the track Before the railroad train— My reason flew clean off the track. It cost a lot to put it back.

"I need a fifty, too, to pay
For the plate glass I broke,
When the Sophs flashed a ghost A common form of loke.

dove right through, to dodge the And broke a castiron hitching post.

"Also I have a bill to pay
For fixing up my stomach.
The Sophs fed me tobasco sauce.
They say it was real comic.
But I was so incinerated
My stomach must be amputated. I think from what the doctors say

Of how I'm getting on.
That I may leave the hospital
Ere many days are gone;
In fact it won't be long before
I'm strong enough to have some more
—Dean Collins.
Portland, October 1.

Merit Due to Selection and Cultivation

Not Prayer, Says Writer. PORTLAND, Dec. 30.—(To the Editor.)—In re "Miracle Wheat," the editorial in The Oregonian this morning as the sequence to a press dispatch published yesterday, appears to deserve some notice, and, possessing some knowledge of the real facts in the case, I presume to offer them.

The statement that Pastor Russell is the originator and exploiter of this wheat is in fault. The originator is J. A. Bohnet, of Pittsburg, Pa., who after several years of experiment claims to have developed a wheat of unusual merit. This wheat is not the result of merit. This wheat is not the result re-ports would been to suggest, but is largely the result of "main strength and pure awkwardness," the result of patient effort through a number of years of careful selection and cultiva-tion. Its principal claim to attention is due to its being unusually prolific.

is due to its being unusually prolific.

Mr. Bohnet, who is not unknown to many people of Portland and Oregon. having been at one time a resident of this territory, was a recent visitor in this city, and in conversation with the writer told him considerable of his experiments. Not, however, being interested in agriculture, and never anticipating the notoriety which would be so suddenly thrust upon this grain. I did not inquire into the relative merits and demorits of his wheat. We were did not inquire into the relative merits and demerits of his wheat. We were advised that this year he had secured what he could call a "crop," in all not exceeding two tons. During the past several years he had raised enough to send some around amongst his friends for further experiments.

The progress in the development of

The progress in the development of the fertility of the soil and productive-ness of the various fruits and grains has been a matter of interest to all those interested in those ideas of which those interested in those ideas of which Pastor Russell champions, and naturally a large number of Pastor Russell's so-styled "following" have kept in touch with Bohnet and others in their experiments. After making reservations for seed purposes during this present Fall, the balance of this year's "crop" was sent to the Brocklyn office and notice given through the channel of the seedisty's journal that any wish-

of the society's journal that any wishing to secure this seed could do so. of the society's journal that any wishing to secure this seed could do so.

In view of the fact that the price of \$1 a pound was placed on this article, it doubtless appeared to the reporter in the light of a "get-rich-quick" scheme. The W. T. B. & T. Society gets its support, like the other Bible societies, from the voluntary donations of its supporters. Bohnet's donation of his "miracle wheat" was made in the same manner as any other, but as the society's offices are not a clearing-house for farm products, they arranged for the disposition of this article in the the disposition of this article in manner more or less accurately stated in your report. Those who wished could, instead of making a cash donation, purchase this grain and continue the experiments. What the virtues of this wheat are, its milling qualities, etc., personally we cannot tell, our etc., personally we cannot tell, our knowledge being limited to the exter-nal distinction between ordinary what and carrot seed.

and carrot seed.

Relative to the testimony from
Messrs. Ackerman and Luther, of Dusty.
Wash., I would state that these gentlemen are level-headed German farmers and experienced wheatmen of that sec tion of the state, and not religious en-thusiasts. The fact that they have seemingly indorsed this wheat gives some weight in my own mind to the claims made for it by Bohnet. That the virtue of this wheat consists in any "blessings" by Pastor Russell is ab-surd and doubtless the idea originated in the sanctum of the New York World, whose editorial staff probably thought that they saw an excellent opportunity to amuse the public at Pastor Russell's

That Pastor Russell is "making money" or getting "rich" from the pro-ceeds of this sale is as absurd as it is mendacious. Those who are engaged with Pastor Russell in the work which he is pursuing cannot be imposed upon by him or any other, and none know this better than Pastor Russell himself. That his "followers" (whose number amounts to considerable) are not falling over each other to secure this wheat or any other, is manifested in the fact that none has been bought in Portland. This may be due to the agricultural element being a negligible quantity at

Let me say in closing that those who are buying this seed for experimental purposes at the price of \$1 per pound evidently know what they are doing and time alone can tell what they are WILLIAM A. BAKER getting.

Fingrant Case of Desertion.

PORTLAND, Oct. 1 .- (To the Editor.) -A case of desertion of a nursing mother with several little ones has occurred in the neighborhood of East Seventeenth near Washington. poor creature appealed to the different homes of the neighborhood, but being unable to speak English, failed to make herself undertood. She finally went to the home of the German gardener who lives across. Alder street, with somewhat better success. Hearts can talk when tongues are silent and the German's wife has an exceptionally large heart. She, too, had been a mother and had once come to a strange country when she could not speak English.

It seems that the supplicant heen living with a family who had moved away, and since the door was locked has had no other place to sleep and care for her bables than under the porch. Her tidy appearance under

porch. Her thay appearance under such adverge circumstances bears evi-dence of birth and breeding. Little is known of the husband and father of this forlorn but apparently delicately-reared family. He was an indifferent musician who insisted upon singing during the early morning hours, resulting in much insomnia among his neighbors. Evidently, like among his neighbors. Evidently, like Mary Jane's Pa, when the duties of parenthood arrived, conjugal love waned and he left for parts unknown. Anyone who will provide a home for a beautiful, blue, maltese cat with small

family will be welcomed by its neigh-bors, space being somewhat limited in this part of town and all spare rooms taken. MARY ALICE OGDEN.

## Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian October 2, 1861. The City Council has adopted an or-dinance fixing the salary of the City Attorney, J. H. Mitchell, at \$1000 per

G. L. Curry, of the Advertiser, has taken into partnership Messra, Daly, Halloran and Allison in the publication of that paper. They were formerly employed as workmen in that office—two of them printers—and all very fine young men.

State Fair, Oct. 1 .- One thousand en tries have been made. The exhibition of horses will be great. Cattle, hogs and sheep are coming in. So far the rain has not disturbed us not having been too much to lay the dust.

The practice of smuggling diamonds. The practice of shings and the property and other valuables from Europe by female passengers has become so extensive that two female inspectors have been attached to the revenue service at New York whose sengers for concealed dutiable articles.

Workmen are engaged in graveling

### What's Doing in Oregon

Going Some.

Beaverton Reporter.
An Oregon Electric car ran over a ackrabbit near Whiteford Tuesday

News to Busy City People.

Hillsboro Argus.
Old Portland Mountain, between here and the metropolis, is garbed in all the colors of the rainbaw, these days, old King Autumn being bus; with his naint brush.

Other Candidates Frightened?

Oregon City Courier.

It is given out from Eugene that
Lawrence Harris, Circuit Judge, will
become a Republican candidate for
United States Senator against Senator
Bourne. Several other men, who had
been thinking of entering the contest,
appear to have had another think.

"Stormy Petrel" Used Gasoline.

Eugene Register.

Just about the time the Portland
Business Men's Special was getting
rendy to take its departure for home. ready to take its departure for home, Colonel Hofer stepped into the office to telegraph a short story to his paper. While there the train pulled out without him. The colonel is full of expedients, however, and would not allow a little thing like that to cut him out of his fun with the boys. He wired Mr. McMurray to hold the train at function a few minutes them hired an Junction a few minutes, then hired an automobile and kited down the line at a 40-mile an hour speed and caught his train all right.

#### Ray Leonard Once Exposed.

Lebanon Criterion. Lebanon Criterion.

A traveling man by the name of Hunt, traveling for Paul Reigel & Company, of San Francisco, was in Lebanon yesterday and gave quite a bit more history to the Lebanon man-woman Ray Leonard. Mr. Hunt says he knew Leonard well when he and his uncle, (the man who was with her was her uncle and not his or her father), lived in Stockton, California, when he was a boy and for many years comwas a boy and for many years conducted a shop there, and that he knew them both well. She passed herself off there for a man, and they were close mouthed people but in some way the story got out that the man shee-maker was a woman and she and her uncie left Stockton one night and dis-appeared. He says he had about forappeared. He says he had about for-gotten all about them until he was in Lebanon a few years ago after he became a traveling man, and while eating his dinner at Hotel Lebanon he heard that peculiar laugh and looked around and recognized the old Califor-

nia shoemaker.

In California she went by the name of Ray Varnum. He says he mentioned the fact to no one as he did not care to embarrass her. When he knew them in California they were honest, indus-

trious persons.

He says after they left California the life history of the couple became esting story of her life, which he will not tell as long as she lives.

### Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

A bluff will carry you only a short distance, and is liable not to work at all; finally the world will know what you can actually do.

It takes my son a long time to tell what he intends to do; but I can soon tell what I have done.

You cannot amount to a great deal until you realize how cheap and worth-less flattery is. The first thing an agent does, when he robs a fool, is to flatter him.

You'll never be a great leader until you invent a lot of giants, and keep them from eating the people. That's the popular thing these days. The most contemptible thing I know

of Americans is their hatred of abla men who succeed in doing that which we are all trying to do.

Nine out of ten men are fond of being accused of deviltry with wo-men of which they are not guilty. Some people read the riot act, and give the guilty parties time to argue, and organize their friends. A better

way is to give them both barrels who they are not expecting it. People seem to have a mania for giv

ing me advice. Don't they pursue you with it, too? When a man is laughed at, it hurts him as much as to be abused.

If a loafer is not a nuisance to you, it is a sign that you are somewhat of a loafer yourself.

BAD MANNERS IN STREETCARS.

Smokers, Chewers and Manicurists Are All in Evidence.

PORTLAND, Or., Sept. 28 .- (To the Editor.) - The Oregonian today pub-Editor.) — The Oregonian today pulses a letter on streetcar mannerisms that the writer trusts may prove the opening wedge to further discussion on this subject in such manner as to benefit a patient and long-suffering benefit a patient and long satisfies community. The writer's comments, however, apply not alone to Portland, but to every city. Let us start the reform movement at home. The writer proves most conclusively that the cavedweller, the barbarian, the savage are very much in evidence, but just how to civilize them is certainly a stablem.

The fellow with the malodorous stub The fellow with the malodorous stub of a punk cigar or cigarette is ever present on our streetcars. The chap who pereists in stabbing himself in the mouth with a piece of wood and cleansing said wood on his coat sleave is quite appetizing, as is his comrade who considers a streetcar the lawful, right and only place to cleanse his foul, yellow fangs with a filthy excuse for a handkerchief.

But of all the cavedwellers who consider the public streetcar their habitat, the most nauseous and inexcusable is the one who puts in his

habitat, the most named and maccusable is the one who puts in his whole time on a streetcar manicuring his fifthy talons, a happy comrade in the meantime cleansing his ears or rolling nose pills. Then there is the cave man that spits, the one with the dog, the goese person who sits on you.

OBSERVER. OBSERVER

Why He Couldn't Live Here. "Red Letter Days

Mrs. Andrew Crosse: of My Life." of My Life."

After sitting an hour or two with Walter Savage Landor, you would forget that he was an old man; he was such stirring company and at all times there was so much suggestiveness in his talk.

I well remember a fine burst of Landor's eloquence in favor of resulting in stifutions; and fine burst of Landor's eloquence in favor of republican institutions; and when especially praising the Ameri-cans, among whom he had many friends, he concluded with the remark. "But I could never like" "But I could never live in America, because they have no cathedrals and stained glass."

Weight of Onts.

PORTLAND, Sept. 28.—(To the Editor.)—How many pounds are there in a bushel of oats in Oregon? Is the weight of a bushel the same throughout the United States? A SUBSCRIBER,

A bushel of oats in Oregon weight 32 pounds. In other states the weight ranges from 32 to 36 pounds.