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FORTLAND, THURSDAY, OCT. 12, 1811.

POPULAR LEGISLATION IN CALL-FORNIA.

California will no doubt rejoice in the new powers her people have conferred upon themselves by adopting of popular lawmaking. Indeed it is already announced that the woman suffragists, defeated in the same election that gave the poople direct legis-lation machinery, will at once circu-late petitions for another trial of "votes for women" before the electors,

In California's case we are promsed a broader experiment with popular government agencies than any heretofore presented. In population and area California is the largest state that has officially approved direct legisiation. It has been argued that the initiative, although successful in com-paratively small communities, would be found unwieldy and unsatisfactory in large ones. Diversity of occupations, resources, climate and people, with the necessity for general laws designed to benefit a particular local-ity, have been cited as agencies that uld contribute to disaster in the application of the initiative in large amunities

If there is any morit in this argument it surely should be demon-strated in California. It is 700 miles from the polling booth of the lumber lack of Northern California to that of the naturalized Mexizcan laborer or "choio" of Southern California. To each the other's country is as differ-ent from his own as black is from live; and he has helped to put a law white, as mountain is from desert, as on the Oregon statute books requir-Winter is from Summer. Each may ing all lobbyists at Salem to disclose know his own needs, but be unwilling to grant the needs of the other or the vere penalties. The Cridges and the needs of the fisherman, the miner, the fruitgrower, the oil producer and the other industrial representative operating between.

Of course California may utilize its new power only as a legislative check, or club, or weapon. That is no doubt what the people had in mind when they adopted the new constitutional dments. But it is unlikely that the initiative in particular will be con. fined to this chary and commendable It has not been protected from the class agitator, the special interest or the politician. There is little guard the petition forger, none against. against the paid petition circulator. It is not offered, as Woodrow Wilson, appeal from the indifference, inactiv-What the people of California really wanted could have been given them without the evils that are likely to attend their new powers, but the framers of the amendments ignored experience and relied on theory. The people took what was offered as the nearest possible approach to what they de-In use of the referendum California will likely be somewhat freer from fraud and conspiracy than Oregon Appropriation acts for current state expenses are excepted from the operations of the referendum. They are But the initiative net in Oregon. with no safeguards put around it may produce its freaks, its mistakes, its leceits, as it has in Oregon, and whatever it produces becomes sacred from the defiling touch of the Legislature. Laws adopted by the people can only be repealed or amended by the peo-A secondary constitution is, to created against which the courts must in time measure legislative acts as they now measure them against the original organic law.

vidual faddists, impecualous dream-ers and small groups of doctrinaires from forcing their fancies before the people for rejection or adoption. These, at least, will be out of the gmme.

LICENSE, OR DIVE?

SHERWOOD, Or. Oct. 8 .-- (To the Editor.) -- Your objections to the liquor license tor.)-Your objections to the huttheresting conditions in Forthand make interesting reading. I don't think you have any cause to complain. If your vote agreed with your opinions that you expressed in The Orego-nian previous to the last election you are getting just what you voted for. E M. MELSO.

Would you have The Oregonian, then, express its satisfaction with present conditions? The Oregonian has at no time said that the liquor license is the ideal solution of the liquor problem. Abstinence is the ideal solution. As between the alternative of the regulated saloon unlicense and the unlicensed dive under so-called state-wide prohibition. The Oregonian favors license as

the lesser evil. The community in Oregon that wants prohibition may have prohibi-tion under present laws. The law is ineffective wherever there is no active, persistent and obvious demand for its enforcement; it is effective wherever the people, or a clear ma-jority of the people, desire that it be the initiative, referendum and recall, enforced, and elect their public offi-and will at once begin little voyages clais with that definite understanding, or on that specific pledge.

We have law enough now to de stroy the liquor traffic; but we have not the wish or the will to destroy it.

That is what is the matter. Does our friend think that the Portland officials who have permitted such flagrant and offensive asions of law by saloon men under the present system would have been more severe against the hlind-pig operators under prohibition?

MR. CRIDGE'S RIGHT TO EAT.

Mr. Cridge, alias Mr. Denton, alias Any-Other-Old-Name, has two letters in the same issue of one of the local called "nature books," which, we suppapers, which is doing pretty well for a mere \$50-a-month Felds-fund-hired writer. Cridge is a marvel. He works hard at his job and he works cheap. He would fill the columns of The Oregonian and all the other pa-pers he is paid by Fels to write for if they would print it.

Mr. Cridge, allas Fred Denton, allas Any-Other-Old-Name, defends his employment by the Fels fund on the ground that he has to eat. We suppose so. But he is one of the kind who have for years been denying the right of the railroad attorneys and their employment under certain se-Dentons and the rest were greatly shocked at the peruicious activity of the hired lobbyists and particularly abhorred the secret and stealthy methods of their operations. The lobbyists at Salem and other capitals

had to go. Now U'Ren, Cridge and the rest are lobbyists before the people for the single tax. They are the beneficiaries of the great Fels fund. They are given stated salaries. It is their pur-puse to get the public to pass a law

California has several large centers of members of Eastern Star Grange, of dead with fear all the way across the Multinomah. Plainly speaking, they not only see no need of increasing this tax, but one member expressed objects are drawn earthward in one

are but justifying their record in bringing this matter home to them-A needless surplus arising selves. from taxes is, in the estimate of thrifty, conservative farmers, to be iscountenanced, whether stored in Isabella. the vaults of the National treasury, in corporation treasuries or in banks to the credit of organizations. Human experience justifies this view, and we them have Holy Writ for it that "where the Moora. money,

gathered together."

FICTION IN CLACKAMAS,

It seems that the taste for fiction is not so lively among the school chilbooks which are to be distributed this Fall in that county are scientific. We do not know exactly whether to weep or smile over this report. There is something foriorn in the thought of all the little boys and girls of a district poring over Spencer's First Principles and Darwin's Origin of Species. Perhaps that kind of a mental diet would be good for them, but there is some danger that it might set up an Indigention Fiction is not half so bad as it is

made out to be. All librarians of whom we ever heard raise pacans of joy when they can show in their an-nual reports that the circulation of fiction is falling off, but we are not sure that their joy is justified. tion is literature at any rate and most scientific books are anything but literature. A good many of them are Nine out of ten of the sotwaddle.

pose, are included among "works of contain neither literature cience" nor truth. They are fictions of that peculiarly obnoxious sort which poses as fact. In our opinion there ought to be a onsistent and determined effort during school years to make children acquire the habit of reading books which are works of art, no matter they are scientific or ficti-

tions. It stands to reason that young people ought to acquire the fundamental scientific notions on which modern life is based, but they ought also to cultivate that love of the beautiful in conduct and art without which the life is a miserable failure. After he leaves school the ordinary boy has small incentive to modify his reading habits. The kind of books he likes on graduation day he will always like. If he hates all books then he will hate them to his dying day. No greater mistortune than the latter could befall him, because books give him access to the best there is in thought and feeling. Our fear is that

the selection of too many scientific works may destroy the love of liter-ature in Clackamas County.

COLUMBUS. Christopher Columbus was an ad-Mr. Fels wants to have passed. Mr. venturer of the heroic type. Wash-ington Irving calls him a "visionary. U'Ren was hired because it was thought by Fels that his strong postbut a visionary of an uncommon kind." In our opinion the epithet tion as a reformer made him especially useful. He converted his tal-Theodore Roasevelt and other thought ents, his prestige and the public con-leaders would have the initiative, as an fidence in him into money for his own He had no new theory of the earth's pocket. Moreover, he withheld the shape to maintain. He simply adoptity, ignorance or corruption of the fact of his employment from the ed an old one with implicit faith and ity, ignorance or corruption of the Lagislature, but as an easy-running wehicle for popular lawmaking and as a substitute for the Legislature itself. What the nearly of California really UDBR and after them. Not a word U Rens got after them. from U'Ren or Cridge or Eggleston or any others of the hired Fels lobby theless he had all the precision of thought and tenacity of purpose until The Oregonian made the facts which the best education could have imparted. Where he obtained his belief that the earth was spherical it Not a word, not a breath, not public. a syliable Mr. Fels' mistaken benefaction is is not difficult to guess. The idea is a great boon to a lot of thrifty fellows as old as Greek speculation. Most of Oregon. But food, drink and the learned men of that ingenious country had taught that the earth clothes for them are all it will accomand in fact all the heavenly bodies plish. The single tax will be over whelmingly repudiated were globes. Anaxagoras was perso by Oregon for implety on the ground that cuted next year, as it was in 1908. he held the sun and moon to spherical in shape and composed of earthy materials. No doubt the opin-SEATTLE AT HER OLD TRICKS. The old trick of distorting statision that the earth was round had persisted among sallors through the order to make a favorable dark ages. Nobody who had seen the shape of its shadow on the moon in showing for one city in comparison with another has been so often used and so often exposed that it is suran eclipse or observed the constant prising that the Seattle Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Bureau curve of the horizon could take any should resort to it. The twisted sta-tistics are contained in the current the fall. That the earth was flat was a vulgar idea prevalent among landsmon Washington Manufactures and chamber theorists who did not tanu e and the exposure comes promptly from R. W. Raymond, manager of see very far from the tips of their To adopt the sperical hypoth-TROMPS. the Portland Commercial Club Indusesis required not much courage ness of mind. But the confident trial Bureau. Scattle claims to have passed Portellef that one could reach land by land in value of manuf sailing westward was another matter. 1509 with a total of \$50,500,000 against \$40,861,000 for Portland. Columbus may have obtained the first vague concept of his great proj-Seemingly by a typographical error. \$5,000,000 have been lopped off Portect from the Icelanders whom h ited in 1477. As everybody knows, and's figures in this statement, the the Scandinavians were the real dis census figures being \$46,861,000 coverers of the western hemisphere. note in the census bulletin is also Leif Ericson had led his vikings to the coast of New England centuries overlooked, which calls attention the fact that between 1904 and 1909 before Columbus was born, but the Seattle annexed her populous suburba, time was not ripe for their enterprise which contain large manufactures, and doubled her area. If the correand the knowledge of their discovery perished. Still their pioneer work sponding suburbs were annexed to ought not to be forgotten, and Portland, statistics for this city would statue of Leif Ericson at Milwankee. include St. Johns with the Portland Woolen Mill; Linnion with the Clark Wis, is a merifed tribute to one of the world's heroes. His adventures Wilson lumber mill; the Peninsula were remembered in Iceland and the with its packing-house and many other industries; the Sellwood mohair story of them may have been narrated to Columbus. But even if that did mill, which is without the city limits. not happen the idea of salling west-Seattle has annexed suburban inward to find land may have come to him from other sources. The old fadustries, employee and all. Portland has not annexed her suburban indusble of Atlantis, the western continent trice, but the employee almost all live which had sunk beneath the ocean, within the city. Thus the total of manufactured products for, the city proper is reduced, but the total of wageworkers is increased and the night all the suggestion which was percentage of wageworkers to popu-lation far exceeds that of Seattle. In needed by an intelligence as active as that of Columbus. that city 4.8 per cent of the people are Of course he must have perceived wage-earners in factories, in Portalso that if the earth was spherical 5.9 per cent, the totals being it must be possible to sail round it 11,231 for Seattle and 12,214 for Portprovided there was anything to preland. The per capita value of the output of Portland factories is also vent his ships from falling off into space when he got to the antipodes. The theory of universal gravitation ed in defeat. being \$216 to \$212 for Seatthe, or 6 per cent greater. was not understood in the time of Once more has Seattle enthusiasm Columbus. It was accepted as pe fectly natural that objects should fall earthward in Europe, but what we happen to them on the opposite side of the world? Evidently they would Seattle fall away from the earth out into the abysmal guilfs of emptiness. The fear of this calamity was very lively of automobiles. among Columbus' sailors and com The proposal to raise the annual dues of members of the subordinate hined with their huge collection of Granges does not find favor with the other superstitions to keep them half on.

the belief in open lodge that such place as much as in another is one procedure would be dangerous to the of the mysteries of his career. Per-order. He cited the fact that there haps he did not feel sure of it, but is now about \$15,000 in the treasury was willing to run the risk. Great of the State Grange, of which very heroes of his stamp do not object to of the State Grange, of which very network of the standard of the balance of the state of the st vites to extravagance in official sal-aries, and to temptation to speculate fore he received any encouragement. with the funds of the order. Grangers | Henry VII, who was reigning in England at that time, was a great mon arch, but he was not great enough to appreciate the opportunity which Co imbus offered him, nor did any other

THE MORNING OREGONIAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1911.

History rejects the tale that she pawned her jewels to raise money for Columbus. She had already pawned them to obtain funds to fight the Moors. Still she did borrow the money, though, as it appears, she had no security to offer. Her interest in no security to offer. the exploring expedition was wholly religious. Her hope was that the savages whom Columbus might dis-Chriscover could be converted to tianity. They were converted after a fashion, but they were also enslaved and worked to death by their pitiless conquerors. Christianity may benefited them in the other world, but it brought them scant blessings in this one. The Spanlards carried ruin wherever they went in the west ern hemisphere. The story of their career is an almost unbroken record of lust, avarice and cruelty. On the other hand, their own country suf-fered as much, probably, by the fruits of their conquests as did the lands they devastated with fire and sword. was pauperized by the influx Spain of gold from America. For a time prosperity seemed to emanate from the golden stream, but it was an illusion

In reality the decline of Spain dates from the opening of the American mines when its population began to turn from peaceful industry to live by adventure and warfare and that scorn of labor grew up which has persisted to this day. The real benefits of Columbus' great discovery have been reaped by other nations than Spain. The New World gave the Anglo-Sax-ons a broad field in which to develop their ideals of religious and political The discovery of America liberty. made the English language and Eng-lish concepts of life the dominant

factors in modern civilization. Dr. Lessing-Bolgar's plan to attract Austrian and Hungarian immigrants

to the Northwest is eminently praclical and should bear good fruit. radical defect in the immigration law is that it does not attempt to put the immigrant where he is wanted, but dumps him on the Atlantic Coast, which is already crowded and where he has no opportunity to become an independent home-maker on a farm. Oregon should send similar emissaries other European countries whence immigrants come and direct the right kind of people to this state.

We hope Mr. Brewer, of Cheballs County, will not give up teaching. The personality of a man who can make \$10,000 a year on a farm must be invaluable in the schoolro would pay the State of Washington hugely to hire him at a million dollars a year to go from district to district and tell how he does it. Of course that will not be done because the money is needed for more important purposes, such as keeping up the Gov-ernor's military staff, but perhaps Mr. Brewer is willing to give his services for smaller pay.

What book was it that Mrs. Nichols, of Spokane, threw at the burglar? The question is important because the on him. The Holy Ghosters, of whom volume, whatever it was, scared intruder away. Others would employ and two children, said that they had it on similar occasions if they knew its name. Was it a best seller or a Greenland, but changed their course to volume of sermons or a work on the their home port, Portland, Me. Lest New Thought? We trust Mrs. Nichols will enlighten the public upon this point and also tell by what miraculous power she was guided to make her happy choice of a weapon. Some men can break their necks by falling their own length on a con-crete sidewalk; James Nesmith fell seven stories in a Tacoma building and only broke a shoulder. The dif ference consists in how one falls. Probably Nesmith relaxed his muscles and simply let himself go. Most men, when they find themselves falling, try to recover themselves and, by so doing, only aggravate the force of

Gleanings of the Day

In Oregon, according to Charles G Yale, of the United States Geological dently backed with plenty of money) Survey, the total value of the mine on the part of single taxers, so-called. production of gold, silver and copper to induce the people of this county and in 1910 was \$700,675, against \$\$27,001 | state to vote for a single-tax amendin 1909, which, however, also includes the value of the lead produced in that propaganda being well financed and year. The ore treated in 1910 was \$2,132 short tons against 59,281 tons the daily papers, notwithstanding that in 1909. The production of gold decreased from \$751,964 in 1909 to \$679,- are not on the tax rolls, and not even creased from \$781,964 in 1909 to \$579. 488 in 1910; that of silver increased from 27,827 fine ounces, valued at \$14,-470, to 35,578 fine ounces, valued at \$14,-\$19,428; that of copper fell off from 235,000 pounds, valued at \$30,550, to 13,861 pounds, valued at \$1760; and that of lead declined from 400 pounds in 1909 to nothing in 1910. Baker County led in gold production with an output of \$401,002, mostly from deep monarch appreciate it except Queen output of \$401,002, mostly from deep mines, followed by Josephine with \$150,04S from both placers, and deep mines. All of the copper production and 19,885 ounces of the silver output also came from Baker County, whose output of gold, silver and copper was valued at \$418,873 in 1910. The combined gold output from Southwestern Oregon in 1910 was \$209,324, of which \$130,105 was placer gold. The placer gold output of this region decreased \$55,149 in 1910. The mines of Northemstern Oregon produced \$470,-164 in gold in 1910, of which the placer yield was \$40,822 and the deepmine yield \$429,342. The placers of this region showed an increase of \$4756 in 1910 and the deep mines a decrease

of \$42,811. The total value of gold, silver, copper and lead from the State of Wash-ington in 1910, according to C. N. Gerry, of the United States Geological Survey, was \$968,249 against \$448,966 in 1909. The output for 1910 was the

largest in gold, silver and lead and smallest in copper for six years. the The production of gold in 1910 was \$788,145 against \$362,051 in 1909; that of silver was 205,345 fine ounces, valued \$110,886, against 79,488 ounces at. valued at \$41,334; that of copper \$6,918 pounds, valued at \$11,038, against 255,-134 pounds, valued at \$33,167; and that of lead 1,322,287 pounds, valued at \$58,-180, against 288,700 pounds, valued at \$12,414. The number of producing mines in Washington increased from 11 placers and 35 deep mines in 1909 to 21 placers and 55 deep mines in 1910. The placers produced, however, only \$3859 in gold in 1910. The deep mines produced 59,209 tons of ore in 1910, an increase of 22,901 tons over the output of 1909. The Republic district. in Ferry County, produced the greater part of the gold and silver in Washington, and mines in Stevens County produced nearly all the copper and lead. The Republic district alone produced gold, silver, copper and lead valued at \$\$12,686 in 1910.

The Holy Ghost and Us Society has acquired the title of "the panhandlers of the high seas." Its schooner yacht Coronet, which was once a famous racer, haited the Red Star liner Lapland when she was 925 miles east of Sandy Hook with a string of international code signals that every skip-per with a heart stops for. They read: "Short of provisions and starving." The Holy Ghoster feared to launch a

boat in the heavy swell, so the Lapland sent a lifeboat loaded with provisions, Cornell Wooley, of New York City, when he learned what the signals meant, had given the commander of the lifeboat two boxes of cigars when he learned that they were all

members of the Holy Ghost and Us Society, he said he feared the joke was provements, although their chief in-Aine alght come from Africa, intending to call at the Coronet should panhandle any more ships, the Lapland sent a wireless to President Grant that she needed no more provisions. The Coronet admitted having got provisions from a French steamer some time ago. The barkentine Kingdom, owned by the same sect, was wrecked on the African coast last May and the Coronet took off all hands and brought them to this country, depending on the charity of passing ships for provisions. She holsted the sam

WHERE SINGLE TAX IS MISNOMER. C. K. Henry Finds Vancouver System Not Founded on George Theory. PORTLAND, Oct. 11 .- (To the Edi-

or.)-There is a persistent effort (evi-

ment at the coming election, the who seem to have plenty of space in

some of the so-called single taxers

They occasionally suggest that New Zealand is prospering under this sys-tem, and the least reliable point to Vancouver, E. C. as a city having but single tay and approximately and point

Vancouver, E. C., as a city having but single tax and prospering thereunder. The writer hereof recently paid a visit to Vancouver, B. C., and also the Parliament-House at Victoria to study their methods of taxation; and it is clear that the single-taxors pointing to Vancouver, B. C., as a single-tax city are entirely unreliable and not mafe guides for the voters to follow. As a matter of fact, taxos are levied As a matter of fact, taxes are le as follows in the Province of British Columbia, quoting from page 6, chap-

"An act to assess, levy and ter 53. lect (axes on property and income": Property subject to taxation: (1) All land, personal property and income of every per-son in the province, including the land and personal property within the province of non-residents in the province, shall be liable

non-residents in the province, shill be haddo to taxation. (2) All mines and minerals shall be as-sessed and taxed. (3) Every person shall be assessed and taxed on real property, personal property and income, subject to the exemptions of this act (which relates to cemeteries, etc.). Quoting from page 11:

The taxes on all incomes up to \$2000 is 1 per cent; from \$2000 to \$1000, 1% per cent; from \$2000 to \$4000, 1% per cent, and from \$4000 to \$7000, 2 per cent; from \$7000 and over, 2% per cent. Is there any single tax about that?

There is also taxed in addition to the land tax, personal tax and income tax, the following, quoting from page 14:

Every bank doing business in this provi shall be assessed and taxed in addition the foregoing subsection \$1000 per ann and \$125 for each additional branch. Quoting from page 12:

mit.

The owner of every salmon canners addition to the tax on real property. D sonal property other than salmon and come, shall be taxed at the rate of t come, shall be taxed at the rais of the cents on each case of salmon packed by him during the year ending the 31st day of December, and in addition to such tax a tax of 1 per cent on the total price for which any salmon, other than canned sik-mon, has been sold by him during said year. Is there any single tax about that? Quoting from page 15: Is a solution to their real estate and in-

In addition to their real estate and it life insurance company, every guaran company, loan company and trust company

company, nam company and that company, every hiegraph, thephones and express to pany, every gas company and every wa works company and street railway comp is assessed and taxed upon its gross rever from all sources derived, arising or accu from business transacted in the province How is that for single tax? As to personal property, the ad

"Ye should have seen us, in the morn, Bowing our heads in shame. Kneel on the turf of the new-found As to personal property, the advo-cates here say that they have but the land tax, single land tax. At section 5, page 15, is shown: Kneel on the second world And houer Colombo's name. Hither mine host, and fill the cups! Up to the roof be whirled A shout, my men, for a king of meni Colombo-who found a world." Portland, October 11. page 15, is shown: If personal property tax is greater than the income tax, then they collect from the personal property, and if the income shall be the only tax payable in respect of both income and personal property. Single tax? Oh, yes.

Single tax? Oh, yes. Vancouvevr, E. C. owing to the enor-mous revenue derived from its income, personal property, franchise corpora-tion and bank taxes, coupled with the poll tax of \$3 per head, and in order to stimulate building in the City of Vancouver from 1885 to 1905, taxed improvements on land at 50 per cent of their valuation; from 1906 to 1909 at for the hapless ship's company. Later, their valuation; from 1906 to 1909 at 25 per cent; and in 1910 exempted buildings on land from taxes; but they do assess not only the land but the im-

parents he asks his father's permission and tells his mother he is going to do 11. A magazine writer lately made a tercome is derived from the income tax. most fair and honest way to tax pee ple, as the cost of Government should be contributed by those receiving the and know. benefits of the Government In propor-tion to their ability to pay. To flustrate: A certain doctor in this city receives an income from \$200,-000, invested in the shape of m loaned; and we will say, that I have an him? loaned; and we will say, that I have an income from \$200,000, invested in land. Doesn't the doctor yell just as lustly for police protection as I do; isn't he just as insistent on having well pre-pared and lighted streets as I am; and doesn't he demand just as much fir-protection as I do? Then, why should n't he pay a like share of the cost for n't he pay a like share of the cost for obtaining all these advantages? Oregon is a young and sparsely set-tied state, with immense bodies of land at a very low valuation, and try-ing to attract settlers to develop these lands. We should not attempt any morexperimental or freak legislation. W have undertaken enough, and we shoul not attempt anything more for years t come. Let Messra. Fels, Jackson U'Ren, Lascomb and other advocate W of the single tax measure try their ex periment on some older and more set tied state than Oregon. We canno stand for it here in Oregon. Ever Vancouver on one line of its taxatio approached it gradually during a term of 16 years, as above shown. No more radical legislation CHARLES K. HENRY.

BALLAD OF COLOMBO

By Dean Collins.

"Look", said the folk of the Spanish inn, "One from Colombo's crew." "he torches flared, and the door crashed back,

The. "Back! Give place!" the stranger cris "Mine be the favored seat; stranger cried.

urged by plausible and copious writers. For ne'er before have you ope'd your

To a man of Colombo's fleet.

"We ware three in a death-marked cell, Pedro and Juan and L Who slit the throat of a wandering monk;

And we waited our turn to die.

We walted, and heard in the corridor The sound of the gaoler's feet. The Queen gives life, if ye dare to sail In the ships of Colombo's fleet.

No single | "'Better,' we cried, 'a madman's voyage

Over an unknown sea

Than to squirm and swing in a hempen string Under the gallows tree.' Grim was the voyage of the fated fleet O'er an ocean silent and drear; Sullen and black about our track

Hovered the demons of Fear. 'West and west, on a madman's voy-

age, Under an unknown sky, Till in the very heavens themselves The star groups hung swiry. No sound, no sight, save the heaving

sea. Under the moonlit fog, And under our prow the wavelets

lapped. And lapped, like a thirsty dog.

We cursed the sky and the sea and

"We cursed the sky and the sea and ships, And each in his sullen breast, Cursed the dreamer, whose fantasy Dragged us forth on the quest. "Better to swing in a hempen string Under the gallows tree," We snarled, "than "rot in our rotting

ships, Lost in a waste of sea."

We listened in fright for the sullen TOBT

Out of the distance hurled, Where pour the floods of the seven

seas Over the brim of the world. 'Back, O Admiral, back" we cried, "Ere the last hope be gone." 'Nay,' and his smile was calm and firm, 'Colombo will still sall on."

So in a night we rolled the dice. And the high score fell to me, To slay Colombo, who drove us on Over the madman's sea. I crouched behind him there in the

But my dagger hand was faint, For the moon was white on his up-turned face-

Ah, God, 'twas the face of a saint.

Well, ye know the tale as well as I;

How the commander's will Balked death, balked mutiny, laughed at fear, And lashed us onward still; And inshed us onward stin; Lashed us onward, till in the west Under a midnight sky. We saw the gleam of a floating fire And knew that the land was nigh.

Another frill not possessed by Oregon is a form of imperative mandate. per cent of the voters at any time not less than ten days before any regular session may propose a bill. The amendment continues as follows:

The amendment continues as follows: The law proposal by such petition shall share be enacted or rejected without obange by the Legislature within 40 days from the time it is realized by the Legis-from the time it is realized for shall be enacted it shall be subject to refer-endum as horebalter provided. If any law so petitioned for he rejected, or if no action is taken on it by the Legislature within sold 40 days, the Scientary of State shall submit it to the people for approval of referitions the next ensuing general election. The Legislature may reject any massive so proposed by initiative and pro-pose a different one on the same subject measures so proposed by initiative and pro-pose a different one on the same subject by a yea and may vote on separate roll call, and in such event both messatures shall be submitted by the Secretary of State to the electors, etc.

It would appear from a literal construction of this section that 5 per cent of the voters may introduce a the Legislature and that the Legislature must either pass the bill exactly as presented or enact no law whatever on the subject. If the subfeet demands attention and the people's bill is crudely and inadequately drawn, the only recourse is to submit substitute to the people. the courts will get around this construction in some way, but the paragraph nevertheless is interesting as a characteristic output of the theorist

As an example of an extreme awinging of the pendulum away from the republican or purely representative form of state government, the Califor amendment is indeed striking. But there is a check against one fo of initiative activity for which Callmay be thankful. California fornia has 285,000 voters, and 8 per cent of three is about 20,000. reguire \$0,000 names to mildate an initiative petition, or more than three times as many as are re nuired in Oregon. On a money cost basis, where a proposed law can be inted for about \$1000 in Oregon will cost \$3000 in California

run away with her judgment and published figures which, as has been shown do not tell the truth. should really be more careful, lest the world refuse to helleve her when her statements are correct.

Nils Florman is more to be congratulated on having escaped marrying a snob than Helen Stallo is to be congratulated on having escaped marrying the son of a masseur and mas-The airs assumed by people seuse. The airs assumed by people only two generations removed from poverty are ludicrous.

Whenever the future Mrs. Jefferthe files of the Congressional Record and brimstone speeches.

Despite Secretary Wilson's asserntil we have cheap labor to make it. Beet sugar cannot compete with the cane product otherwise.

Government figures put the corn crop a guarter of a billion bushels less than last year. That means better bacon and less grease, anyway.

If the coffee trust does not corner the chicory crop, the trust is doomed. Chicory made a healthy beverage in the years far back.

One reason, perhaps, that the wooden block is not in great favor here is that it is produced at home.

The eleven horrid men on that Vancouver jury can do no less than agree with the twelfth "man."

The minority women of California like their Oregon sisters, are undaunt

Turkey and Italy are hollering enough!" but not very loud.

Mr. Beals knows how, for the weather was just right.

The President never saw a finer lo

Councilman Maguire has the gloves

signals as held up the Lapland.

Terre Haute, Ind., has for many years nade fruitless efforts to bring about the correct pronunciation of its name. Timothy Jewett, a newspaper man, pro-voked renewal of the controversy at a meeting of the Terre Haute Literary Club by pronouncing it "Terry Hut," and was corrected by Spencer F. Ball, once a newspaper man but now a mere capitalist, who said it should be pronounced "Tare Hote." Then a goodnatured battle raged between teachers in the State Normal and Rose Poly-

technic schools. It lasted all evening son Davis, of Arkansas, is at a loss and neither party won. A movement for light reading, she might refer to was made years ago to promote the correct pronunciation, which is "Tare and peruse some of the Senator's fire Hote," and a beginning was made with the conductors and brakemen, who had

always called it "Terry Hut," but in spite of all the efforts of the Terre tion, we will not have cheap sugar Haute Express, it still remains "Terry The only exceptions are the Hut." French and those who have learned French.

> A Russian aeronaut is operating his aeroplane on the basis of a taximeter and is doing such a business that he will extend it by getting more machines to take passengers on short runs

Two alternative meanings of the name Siskiyou are offered by the United States Geological Survey. One is that it is a corruption of the name is 96. given the Siskiyou district in California by the French-six caillanx, mean ing "six holders." The other is that it is an Indian word meaning "bob tailed horse," a famous bobtalled racehorse having been lost on the Siskiyou trall.

While the United States is trying to break up the trusts, more of them ar being organized in Europe. The Belgian, Spanish, Austrian and Russian sewing thread factories, driven by the English firm of J. & P. Coats, have formed a trust with a capital of \$250. 000,000. The last obstacle to the Gernan pig iron syndicate has been removed by the accession of the Luxem bourg and Lorraine producers, who had usly held aloof. The result is

expected to be an advance in prices, both in Great Britain and Germany.

Weston as Walker Outdone. Springfield Republican.

The exploits of Weston, the pedes-trish, appear to have been outdone by Marcus Goff, 96, who is reported to have arrived at Stillwater, Okia, on Friday, after having walked a distance of 1200 miles from Pocatello, Idaho, at the average rate of 33 miles a day. New York:

at the average rate of 35 miles a day. At Stillwater he drew his quarterly pension after producing the necessary papers. It is stated that he served in the Civil War, the Mexican War, the Texas war for independence, against Maximilian in Mexico and in ferreling out these responsible for the Mountain Meadow massacre in Utah, while his grandfather fought at the battle of Bunker Hill. He is on his way to visit his children in Texas. Mr. Weston has his children in Texas. Mr. Weston has done faster and longer continued walk-ing than this old soldier is claimed to have done, but it is doubtful whether Mr. Weston can do as well when he

One Eastern Man's View.

One Eastern Man's View. PORTLAND, Oct. 10. - (To the Editor.) -Häving just come from the East, I note everything odd and peculiar and am surprised to see a woman at the head of the Public Library of so large a city as Portland. Why not keep up with the Eastern citles, by having a man as the Librarian? J. B. HAMILTON.

Some day the Eastern cities may keep up with Portland and use no dis-crimination between somes in the choice

of their librarians. It Is Not.

ASTORIA, Or., Oct. 10 .- (To the Edi-ASTORIA, OF, OCL 10.--(10 the Edi-tor.)--I have a gold piece, five dollars, coined in 1547, without "In God We Trust." Please inform me through the columns of The Oregonian if this is worth anything above face value. J. R. HAMILTON.

not control their women That's hard to do; the men have tried,

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

Every man has more pure mischief in his nature than he is willing to ad-

When a boy wants a favor from his

What has become of the old-fashloned man who was a great jumper, and who, when he jumped, held a stone in each hand and threw them behind

Time seems to demonstrate that the man who was a little selfish was wiser than the man who was too generous.

A revolution is rarely a good thing; one or two in a century is enough. The people always go back to order; this is the history of every revolution.

More men flirt with dishonesty than with women, believing it safe when well managed, but every little while a man is sent to fall for flirting, and every little while a man is shot for it.

About the time you reach fifty yo begin seeing insults in the papers to the effect that you are old.

At some time in his life, every farmer who lives close to a town thinks of laying out a rival burying ground.

The man who is standing up for you soon gets tired and sits down.

Men never become so wise that they cannot be seared a little by a bluff.

Germany Hears of Webb Case.

The story of the effect of the Bill Jones poem on Governor West has traveled to "furrin parts." The foltraveled to furth parts lowing account of the Governor's rea-son for commuting Murderer Wobb's sentence is freely translated from a German weekly, "Das Echo," which is published in Berlin. "Das Echo" gives published in Berlin. as its authority a news report from

New York: "Governor West, of Oregon, was so moved today by reading a poem en-titled "They Have Hanged Jones," which he saw in a local paper, that he signed a commutation for Webb, who was to have been executed early this morning. Webb had murdered one of his fellow workmen and hidden the body in a trunk. Up to the moment when the Governor perused this poem he had denied all petitions for mercy to Webb, but the poem wrought such a change of conviction in his soul that he finally saved the murderer from execution. Soon after he had read the verses Governor West confided to the superintendent of the Penitentiary that he had made up his mind to commute Webb's gentence to imprisonment for 2120.

To a Great Actor.

National Magazine. The night looks with a thousand eyes, they

The day with one; yet that one blots the light From all the lesser myriad eyes of night Makes us forget the dark, and bless the day. A thousand stars upon the stage may lay Bowtiching silver on the guileless sight. But when thy gold proclaims thee on the beight They fade to futile pallor, far away.

Son of Singeland! Greater is thy power Than that of all the stars' united sheen When thou are glowing none else seem to be:

Thy spell enchanteth for a too-brief hour, And when the curtain takes thee from the

Thy face, in twilight, clings to memory.