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SPREAD OF DIRECT LEGISLATION.

Though Bryan remains true to

# The Oregonian

### PORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as diption Rates-Invariably in Advanta. (BY MAIL)

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#### (BY CARRIER)

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PORTLAND, MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1912.

#### SUPREME COURT AND EMPLOYEES LIABILITY.

It is apparently useless to look to the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court on the Federal employers' liability act for a definite guide as to what may be accomplished constitutionally in correcting the inequalities of the law affecting the rights of victims of work accidents. While the act sustained is a radical change from statutes relating to the liability of employers for injuries to employes, it is not as radical a reformation of the "law of the killed and injured" as has been attempted by some of the states, or as thorough a revolution as some students advocate.

The decision, it would seem, not necessarily throw a doubtful light on the decision of the New York Court of Appeals, which held the New York ompulsory compensation act to viclate the "due process of law" section of the Constitution. Nor does it give assurance that the United States Supreme Court will agree with the Washington State Supreme Court that the Washington compulsory insurance act affecting employers and employes is constitutional. The distinction. among employers' liability, employes' compensation and state compensatory insurance acts is confusing to one who has not made a study of proposed reforms in treatment of the right of injured employes to be paid for injuries occurring in the line of their employment. A brief review may give a better idea as to what has been decided by the highest court.

The Federal act simply disposes of ome of the common law defenses in actions brought by employes engaged in interstate commerce to recover for work-injuries. It abolishes the fellow. servant rule, making the employer liable for the negligence of all his agents to employes; it modifies the as-sumption of risk rule by giving the employe the right to recover for injury caused by a defect of which the employe had knowledge, and modifies the contributory-negligence rule by per-mitting the jury to adjust damages accordingly, if it be found that the employer's negligence has been gross and the employe's slight in comparison.

The New York compensation act, declared void by the highest court of that state, classified dangerous occupations and provided a fixed schedule of compensation to be paid injured workmen by employers operating dangerous industries.

The Washington

chivalry, Colonel Watterson, confessing that with the approval of Wilson's manager he "touched" Tho F. Ryan for a contribution to the Wilson campaign fund, And who is Ryan? He was the head and front of the tobacco trust, that trust which was denounced by the Supreme Court more severely than the oll trust. He is one of the men whom Bryan has been

clamorously calling upon the President to put in jail. Bryan is so enthusiastic in Wilson's behalf that he has even forgiven the writing of the Joline letter, but would he forgive the Ryan "touch" ] Here we have, according to Watter-

on, the man whom Bryan backs with oratory and Commoner editorials seeking, through a friend, financial backing from one of the men whom Bryan would put behind the bars. Would it not appear that the same instinct of political self-preservation which prompted Wilson to reject the editorial upport of Harvey would also prompt him to reject the financial support of Ryan? For Harvey's affiliation with "the interests" made his sup-port undesirable, and is not Ryan ne of "the interests"? Or would the Governor-professor prefer to hint to Bryan that the Commoner's support hampered his efforts to raise the

wind? But there is a slight difference be tween the two forms of backing-editorial and financial. The essence of editorial backing is its publicity. erybody knows about it. But a little check or a roll of bills can be passed from one person to another, and none be the wiser. That is, provided the intermediary keeps slient. If only Watterson had not exploded with indignation at the Harvey-Wilson episode, the Ryan "touch" might have made and Wilson might still been have been able to pose as the invet-grate foe of "the interests." But these Southern gentlemen have such oldfashioned ideas of what is due to a friend and benefactor, and when they blow up, they blow up,

#### GREAT IS ALASKA!

Nature seems to have favored the guardians of the war chest. United States in its acquisition of Alaska. Politicians have exploited it, mercenaries have plucked it, and theorists have tried to bottle it, but steadily with the years Nature has unfolded its wealth and disclosed to an sands have yielded up unguessed treasures; now its colonies of seals have laden commerce with valuable pelts; again its fisheries have given returns in excess of all expectation, and yet again, and more wonderful than all, the possibilities of agriculture within" its great expanses have been established, while its unmeasured timber areas and undelved coal mines suggest a National opulence that in con-

templation surpass the dreams of avarice. And now comes a report of a softening of the Arctic into the North Temperate Zone temperature along the through the shifting of const the Japan Current inshore, due to a con-vulsion of Nature whereby islands have been erupted in North Pacific waters! A temperature as soft as that of April is recorded at Juneau, with little or no snow on the ground-climatic conditions that have never before, so far as the records show, prevailed in that far Northern city, to ecount for which the theory of the shifting inshore of the Japan Current, due to seismic disturbances of the ocean-bed, has been advanced.

Whatever the cause, the effect noted is magical and if permanent will affect the entire peninsula. The great, bare uplands of the Yukon River, carpeted with wild flowers in greatest variety due to the indolence of the farmer with wild flowers in greatest variety and profusion in the short Summer, and plied high with snow in Winter, and combining for economic distribuwill become productive grain fields, tion. pastures and garden tracts dotted with homes and schools and churches. Stock industry and poultry raising will come profitable and the dependence of the citizens of Alaska upon more Southern lands for means of subsistence during the long twilight of the year will cease. Homesteading on the great plateaus of the wonderful peninsula will develop from a vague possibility into a certainty that will furnish an abiding place for thousands; the clutch of conservation will loosen its hold upon the forests and coal fields, and from the inhospitable silence of the shadowy land known in the geographies of the past genera-tion as "Russian-America" - and vaguely known at that-an empire of surpassing beauty and fertility and of boundless resources will be evolved. Nature holds the key to this vast domain. Its surrender to the forces of civilization and development has been demanded, and slowly in her own graclous way, as is her wont in moving in any direction, great Nature is yielding to the sway of man.

following letter:

Pottiand, Jan. 22.-Mr. H. W. Fiedler, Corvailis-Dear Sir. Pardon my apparent spotiam in this letter and contents relative to your letter in today's Oregonian. Your letter contained so much common sense that it deserves better treatment by his editorial common notwithstanding it was loosely written and did not definitely close up all the possibilities for his crit-letam. Pardon my apparent and contents relative

We have ventured a few suggestions that you may copy or consider in making reply thereto which I believe, if you insist on, he ence of opinion between them on one

will print. I have merely taken his most sunggerated illustration and have written briefly. We know the editor always has the last werd and for this reason we must close up our statements very closely when writ-ing for print. Again asking your pardon, I am very truly for evite rightsources, your friend.

Again assing your partour friend. for eivic rightcounces, your friend. C. W. BARZEE. 08 E. 20th st. Portland. Or. P. S.-Do not allow my name to be men-tioned in this relation. Should you use this, rewrite it entirely. C. W. B.

The matter is chiefly important in disclosing the methods of a foreignpaid press bureau which is attempting to guide and direct law-making by the people in this state. The paid writers of Joseph Fels, the McNamara sympathizer, are using every scheme to make a big smoke where no fire exists. Using fictitious names, they have had recall has gained favor far less rapanimuted discussions among them. selves through willing or deceived newspapers, one writer assuming the | ern states, particularly as applied to role of almost-persuaded, the other that of teacher. They now write let-

ters for those who seem to be nibbling at their balt. It may not fool the public in Oregon, but it seems to fool the Fels fund contributors. But it may be there is no need to repine over that. Perhaps more of Oregon's needy citizens can put a fist into the war chest. Let every man who can write a letter be a "soldier of the common good." Here's a chance for the unemployed. Kind-hearted Mr. Fels, who wouldn't harm anybody, unless he disagreed with him, will pay for single tax letters that escape the editorial wastebasket. As to making optional with the states Mr. Barzee, if the assumption that he has landed on the Fels payroll is incorrect, The Oregonian will gladly publish a disclaimer from him and assist otherwise in bringing his worthy efforts to the attention of

TRY ECONOMY IN DISTRIBUTION. Economy in production and distribution has been carried to the highest degree of efficiency in almost every astonished world its grand properties industry in the United States except and possibilities. Now its auriferous farming, though the farm value of all farming, though the farm value of all | more likely to remain subjects of pureagricultural products is \$3,000,000,000, against \$2,450,000,000 as the combined factory value of steel, oil, lumber, sugar and tobacco. It is estimated by B. F. Yoakum that \$2,000,000,000 could be added to the farmers' price by going more direct to the consumer by means of good roads and the parcels

With good roads radiating from every city into all parts of the country and with the parcels post in full operation on every rural route and railroad, the rural carrier should be able to load an auto truck with butter, eggs, poultry, fruit, vegetables directed by the farmer to the consumer in the city without any such intermediary as the express company or the commission man. The farmer would then get more for his produce and the consumer would pay less and get it fresh. Through the lack of combination among consumers in their own interest, they are taxed for hauling half a load over bad roads instead of a full load over good roads; they are inxed to pay stock dividends from exorbitant

profits to express companies; they are taxed to support a swarm of middlemen who ought to be farming or working in co-operative stores owned by the consumers. The high cost of living is largely

and sent it to Mr. Fiedler with the to Canada. Our forest rangers and "ONE OF THEM" COMES BACK special agents are driving them there

He Contends Civil Service Employes st as surely as Russian persecution Should Have Appeal. VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 27.is driving the Jews to America.

the Editor.)-The editorial comment on my letter in relation to civil service, as published today, is scarcely fair. The Though Bryan remains true to Woodrow Wilson as the apostle of pro-gressive Democracy, in spite of the "cocked hat" letter, there is a differpens at the time to have authority over

him. No question is raised as to the fair-ness of either the method of admission of the principal political issues now before the people. Wilson is preaching clothing there are but few complaints, and they are generally from regiments not out of the recruiting camps. The wool supplies and manufacturing cadirect legislation as a National Issue, direct legislation as a line is only a but Bryan asserts that it is only a state issue, stickling for sharp distinc-tion between the functions of Federal which he was incapable of filling and Direct legislation at present may be only a state issue, but if the present

substitute in cases of great want

tiative and referendum until they are in force in two-thirds of the states, appointment, and this probationary period. Hav-demand will inevitably grow up for their application to National affairs and may result in their incorporation in the Federal Constitution. The ploye should at least be given the op-ploye should at least be given the op-ploye should at the trial before higher au-theories of a trial before higher auin force in two-thirds of the states, a idly and meets determined opposition in the Eastern and Southjudges. It is hardly probable that twothirds, or even half, of the states will facts and records. Almost invariably, where the employe won out, he was able to show not only his competency but adopt it, and, therefore, there is less probability of its being applied to National officers or becoming a National

ing his name or reputation, and to deny him these rights can neither be for the good of the man or the service which enactment. The direct Presidential

> I fully agree with The Oregonian that it would be poor tasts for an employs to criticise his chief on matters of pol-loy, but this is something more, and places the power to fire in the hands of men without the power to hire, and makes any subordinate afraid to offend a superior in any matter, whether con-nected with his work or not. There was more manilness and honesty pos-sible under the old spoils system than will be possible from now on under the so-called civil-service plan, and it will o-called civil-service plan, and it will not be much inducement for good men to enter the service when they realize that they must give up constitutional

Government job. impossible to confine it to the individ-Another point is the tremendous po-litical power which is possible under the present arrangement. Possibly this political power will not be exercised, but the fact that it is possible, and in ual states; it must inevitably extend to National affairs. Direct nomina-tions and the Presidential primary are ly state action or action by the politi-cal parties, for the Federal Constituthe light of past events, probable, con-stitutes a danger worth considering. ONE OF THEM.

tion does not recognize parties and Congress has been more chary than the states of giving them direct recog-Our point is that the man responsible for the work of a department should have the power to decide upon the efficiency of the men through whom he

The history of the growth of the is to get the results expected of him. Portland Commercial Club is a con-He should be allowed to get rid of indensed history of the growth of Portcompetents without trial by a higher From modest quarters in the authority, which would take up much Chamber of Commerce building it of his time and undermine his authormoved four years ago into its own ity. When appeal is allowed, the chief building, but its quarters there have is tempted to remove incompetents only aiready become too cramped and it in aggravated cases, which he would be finds desirable another removal to sure to win, and is inclined to put up still larger rented quarters pending with the far more numerous cases of the erection of an enlarged home of less inefficiency rather than risk a reits own. The Commercial Club has energized the business life and public versal. The six months' probation does not prove continued efficiency through spirit of the city and will continue to a long period of service, during which grow with the city until it will be the sole occupant of its own building and a man may deteriorate seriously. This is good ground for removal. There in that building will match any of the no more reason why a subordinate in splendid structures which now grace the Government service should have the

right of appeal than in private business, where the employer, his manager "Bill" Hanley is right. Boom prices or foreman has the right to "fire" without appeal. Of course, this right in a Government official gives political power, but it is better to repose this power in a few chiefs of bureaus than for land will kill the boom in the settlement of Oregon. The irrigator should be given a chance to build his house and harvest a crop before being to make hundreds of thousands of sub-ordinates irremovable except after a trial in each case. If the chief abuses required to make a second payment on his land. Cut down the price of land to the capitalized value of a fair crop

#### DITTY UNSEASONABLE Half a Century Ago

#### From The Oregonian of Jan. 29, 1862.

From The Oregonian of Jan. 28, 1802. The different regiments now in serv-ice at the East make regular remit-tances of \$10,000, \$15,000 and as high as \$20,000 per month to the folks at home. The receipt of the money is usually acknowledged in the papers. Twas in my childhood first I learned That things aren't what they seem:

That something sinister must lie 'Neath all creation's scheme, That we must guard our epiderms This shows that the Government takes care of its troops. In the matter of Gainst hat which crawls and creeps and squirms

In everything that Nature frames, For Nature is clean full of germs.

By Dean Collins.

I used to frolic carelessly Where rippling streamlets flow, But they are filled with billion germs

Twe later come to know: One must beware of streamlets rare, Of wood and field and sea and air, For Science points it plain to us That germs are swarming everywhere

For years in antiseptic fear The Count de Sagre, lineal descendant of Count Rochambeau, of Amer-ican Revolutionary fame, has tendered Great care I exercised To keep my daily course of life Completely-sterilized: I'd sleep, I'd wake, I'd breathe, I'd eat, his military services to the President, and they have been accepted. The same answer has been given to the Burning with germicidal heat. Baron de Schonen, descendant of La-

And ever strove to form a scheme The germs to circumvent and cheat. They will soon be in the Nothing oscapes the swarming things.

They camp within our food. And find in drinking cups a place The steamer Cowlitz arrived here about 6 o'clock last evening from the Cowiitz River, where she had been To rear their teeming brood Cownitz River, where she had been blocked in during the late cold spell. Captain Holman informs us that he met the steamer Brother Jonathan day And now a scientist affirms, In pond'rous fourteen-jointed terms, That balmy Spring we love so well Springs from a springing swarm of before yesterday going down the river, outward bound, having been icebound for the last two weeks three miles begerms.

Now, in the Spring, ah, foolish me, Now, in the Spring, and run About the budding hills and dales, And carol full of fun, And never dreamed I opened wide An avenue on every side, Where Springtime germs could gain

In the House, Mr. Griswold intro-duced a memorial to Congress, asking that fortifications be erected at the a way Into my system and abide.

A debate took place on the bill to repeal the charter of the Oregon Steam Navigation Company, which was in-definitely postponed, Bill to incorporate Now that I've learned this, still I hold

Now that I ve learned this, such I house I do not care a rush. I'll sterilize my food and clothes, My money and tooth brush; But I assert, with all my might, Though Spring have billion germs in Washington Steam Navigation Com-pany ordered to be printed. The Pioneer and Democrat says that

The Ploneer and Democrat says that Major Goldsborough, who is associated with Dr. O'Brien and Victor Smith in the project of removing the custom house to Cherberg, has gone East as the agent of the speculators, with the view of lobbying their plans through Congress. Smith, ex-collector of cus-toms, was hung in effigy on the 11th inst at Port Townsend for his connec-tion in the above transaction sight.

T'll seek no antiseptic guard-but let the little Spring germs bite. Portland, January 28.

WAITERS' SIDE OF TIPPING TOLD Gratuities Bring Average Monthly Wage

to About \$70. PORTLAND, Jan. 28 .- (To the Editor.)-Under date of January 17 there

appears in The Oregonian an article entitled "Salesmen Unite in Anti-Tip War," in which W. H. Lilly proposes to organize a club to abolish tipping. He says he has tested his plan, being in the Postoffice on which were old postage stamps. Unless these letters and some others, now in the Postofwaited on three times at the same table by the same walter, without tipping him for his service. This statement reflects little to Mr. Lilly's credit, but says much for the principle and patience of the waiter whose duty it was to wait on him. It is out of such misguided spirit as Mr. Lilly shows that he would have men hide the mark which would distinguish them for the smallness of their purpose and spirit. I fear from the outset that the large-

ness of heart that possesses the aver-age man will sound the doom of Mr. Lilly's noble aspirations. However, while the subject of tipping occupies the minds of Portland's business men, it might not be out of place to present the public with the writer's view of the question. The average tip received by most

waiters would amount to about 10 waiters would amount to about 10 per cent. This does not include all sales, howaver, and would average about \$1.25 per day, which together with the aver-age wage, which is around \$32.50, would bring his income to about \$70 per month-surely not an excessive amount to keep a home, feed, clothe and properly educate a family. No man is asked to tip his waiter. If he chooses to do so it is his priv-liese. The proprietors of Portland's

Heire. The proprietors of Portland's principal hotels, grills and restaurants approve of the giving of gratuity, as is shown by their own liberality in that respect to their amployes. TL naturalization laws. I was born in Germany, and at the time of emigration ant walter, the same as it does

wool supports which have not been quite equal to the immense domand made upon them by the war. The greatest scarcity is in the matter of blankets. An Ohio paper recommends to families to furnish carpetings as a substitute in cases of erast want who did not render faithful service for the pay given him, and with due re-spect to The Oregonian I protest against being placed in this class, if such a

tendency to its adoption in more and more states should continue, it may soon become a National issue. Should class really exists. There is ample opportunity during the six months' probationary appointment required of each new appointee to asone state after another adopt the inicertain his fitness for the permanent appointment, and this is evidently the object of the probationary period. Hava competitive thority than the one making the charges. Under the old law this was done and there was no difficulty in setting rid of a really incompetent man. The statement that such was practical-ly impossible is not borne out by the

fayette. They United States.

low St. Helens,

printer

From Olympia-On the 6th Alonzo W. Poe, a Union man, was elected pub-

mouth of the Columbia River.

tion in the above transaction.

tated in the Victoria papers.

letter office at Washington

tle from starvation

in Fort Lafayette.

From Victoria-The abolishment of

On Sunday three letters were placed

fice, are taken out by the writers and stamps of the new kind placed upon them, it will become the duty of the postmaster to send them to the dead

From Mr. Pennel, who arrived from

the Cascades yesterday afternoon, we received the following news: Mr. P. traveled the whole distance

from the Cascades to Sandy, 34 miles,

on the ice in the Columbia, and from thence came by land to this place.

Hence came by and to this pace, being 16 hours on the way. He reports four and one-half feet of snow at the Cascades, and a Mr. Levens-worth, who resides some four miles west of that place, lost 75 head of cat-

It will be remembered that a few

It will be remembered that a few weeks since General McClellan con-ceived a plan and had it just ready for execution for capturing Munson's Hill with the 8000 or 10,000 rebels on it, but that his coup was defeated by the betrayal of his plan to the enemy. The trailor has been discovered in the per-son of the clerks in the War

son of one of the clerks in the War

Department and is now safely lodged

Naturalization Laws.

PORTLAND, Jan. 25.—(To the Ed-itor.)—My father emigrated into the United States, and was duly made a citizen of this country according to the

mprisonment for debt is being agi-

to show not only his competency but that the charges were really based on personal dislike or prejudice. It is distinctly unfair and un-Ameri-can to deny a man the right of a fair hearing or trial on any charges involv-One of the first fruits of the initiative in Oregon was the direct primary, and it is spreading even more rapidly than direct legislation, for it has been adopted in many states by legislative

te represents. I fully agree with The Oregonian that primary is a natural extension of the same system and at present remains a purely state issue, through the action of the National committees in whether National delegates shall be elected by this means or by conven-Its extension seems probable until a majority of the states have adopted it. When that time comes, we may expect the National committees to make it obligatory on all the When such a movement as that for rights in order to hold a poor-salaried direct legislation becomes general, it is

dangerous occupations, but requires employers therein to contribute ac-cording to amount of payrolls to a fund administered by the state. From this fund injured workmen are compensated according to a more or less fixed schedule.

By the terms of the New York act the injured employe receives from the employer, and by the terms of the Washington act he receives from the state-administered fund, compensation for injuries, irrespective of any negligence or wrongdoing on the part of the employer or fellow-servant, and regardless of any known risk created by negligence of employer or risk inherent to the occupation.

In comparing decisions, one feature of these two acts, not found in the Federal act as we understand it, is important. This is the requirement that the employer shall pay for injuries when he is not at fault. He must compensate for injuries to his workmen growing out of risks inherent to their occupation and which the employer may use every effort to avoid or guard against. This was the principal objection the New York court found to the New York compensation act. That court held that the Legislature had the power to abolish the fellow-servant and contribuinry-negligence doctrines and that ft night abolish the doctrine of assumption of risks as a defense applied to those risks for which the employer was at fault. As far as the United States Supreme Court went, the New York court was in accord with it. But the remaining feature, the one that voided the New York law in the opinon of the state court, was not comsidered by the United States Supreme Court. It was not a part of the Fedral act under test before the United States Supreme Court. Therefore, there is as yet no absolutely final guide on the one point in serious doubt in framing workmen's compensatory acts or industrial insurance. This aubtful feature, found in the New York and Washington acts, does not exist in Oregon's new employers' liabillity act. So far as it alters the common-law liability of the employer, one may, by measuring it with the Federal act, now upheld, assume that the Oregon law is constitutional.

WILSON AND THE RYAN "TOUCH."

Democrats are so busy with their own little faction fights that they seem to have no time for stirring up trouble among the Republicans. Here we have Wilson branded as a cold-blooded ingrate, Harmon branded as Wall street's only love, Guffey branded as a tool of "the interests," Bryan branded as a trouble-maker, Clark and Folk an open fight for the Missouri delegation, Wilson and Hearst struggling for the California delegation. Democratic harmony is getting "all mussed

The machine and the progressive lements of the party are also becomslightly mixed. Here is that

#### WHAT AN AWFUL SMOKES:

#### As a result of careful nursing by war chest beneficiaries of the Fels fund quite a showing is being made in the press of the state as to the growth of single tax discussion. How it does spread! Some may have wondered over the blossoming into literary efforts of men whom nobody ever heard of before and whose names do not appear in the city directory. Some may also have noticed that occasional. y an upstate citizen suddenly acquires familiar style of letter-writing and displays a ready fund of stock arguments in behalf of Mr. Fels' single tax doorway to "practical state socialism." These phenomena may now be credited to the devious ways by which the press agent succeeds in "putting one over" on the newspaper editor and thereby earns his pay. For example there is the case of

Mr. C. W. Barzee. Now we have given full credit to Mr. Cridge, Mr. Eggieston and Mr. U'Ren, "great soldiers of the common good," for facility in getting next to the war chest raised in Philadelphia, Chicago, Canada and elsewhere, but have never identified

Mr. Barzee as one of those permitted to approach it when the lid was unlocked. Surely, Mr. Bargee is earning a salary if Mr. Cridge, Mr. Eggleston and Mr. U'Ren are. In fact, Mr. Barnee, in our opinion, is developing pronounced press agent traits. His demonstration of them has just been forcibly called to our attention.

Having observed in The Oregonian letter written by Mr. H. W. Fiedler, of Corvallis, which he believed showed a trend of thought toward single tax, Mr. Barzee sized up Mr. Fiedler as an honest farmer who was unpracticed

in the art of writing letters for the newspapers. So Mr. Barzee wrote a crop im single tax argument which he thought ejected.

RANGERS AND SETTLERS.

All that The Oregonian has ever said in reference to the abuse of power by the Forest Service is corroborated by the speech of Senator Borah condemning as farcical the administration of the law providing for homesteads on agricultural land in the National forest. The selection in two years of ranger headquarters doubling in number the forest homesteads approved by the Forest Service tells the whole

story. The ranger wishes to create for himself a comfortable home within the forest-a good house, garden and farm. The law allows him to do so by selecting a desirable tract as ranger headquarters. The house is built at Government expense and he may improve the farm at his leisure, being

subject to none of the requirements of the homestead law. He has a "anap." A settler happens to spy out a tract of agricultural land in a National forest and files application for it with the Supervisor. If he homesteads the land he must make his home on it and

put a certain area under cultivation each year for five years. Would he do this if the land were not agricultural? Common sense tells us he would not. His farm may be in some little cove in the bed of a forest canyon, fifteen or twenty miles from another settler. His only neighbors are the rangers, who have been taught to suspect him as one who might steal some of their precious, carefully pre-

served timber, or as one who wishes to grab a quarter section of timber land on the false pretense that it is agricultural land. If the land is really agricultural, the

ranger meditates that it would make a good ranger station and casts covetous eyes on it. He prompts the supervisor to require that the settler demonstrate for two years that the land is agricultural before his application will be granted. The settler is willing to demonstrate this by living on and cultivating the land, making it produce a living for him and his family.

If he fail, he must abandon the claim or go hungry. One would think that sufficient demonstration to satisfy any reasonable man. But he must im prove the land for two years, suboot to the risk that at the end that time it may be declared non-agricultural by the flat of the supervisor. If after two years his application is rejected, he can continue to occupy it only as a yearly tenant of the supervisor, subject at any time to the risk

that the land may be selected as a ranger station and all his improveappropriated by the ranger Naturally, when the ranger desires his claim, the settler will be absolutely unable to convince him or the super visor that it is agricultural land, though the ranger may raise a good crop immediately after the settler is

gallant representative of Southern | better than Mr. Fiedler could write No wonder our farmers are moving synonym for a trust,

removed two serious obstacles to the state's progress.

No doubt the high schools are following lessons in breadmaking by teaching the girls to boil potatoes Many a girl can cook a dish with a six-jointed French name, but she can't boil potatoes. Having learned to make bread, boil potatoes and roast meat, a girl knows enough to keep her family from starvation or dyspepsia while she is learning the ornamental frills of cookery.

Tacoma's Montamara Festo, follow. ing close upon Portland's Rose Festi-val and Seattle's Potlatch, will make June a month of almost unbroken galety in the Pacific Northwest, There will be just enough interval between the Seattle and Tacoma events to en-

able the pleasure-lovers to organize a new appetite.

President Taft volces his honest pinions about the recall, regardless whether he loses the votes of the U'Renic organs. His courage and independence must command the admiration even of those whom he thus antagonizes.

The charge of 10 cents a box for handling the Oregon apple crop, as suggested in the proposed selling organization, is not much for each box, but will assure lots of easy money at the expense of the growers.

Oregon dairymen can do much toward besting oleomargarine by increasing and improving production. People will not eat the imitation article if they can get better.

A German replica of Rider Haggard has discovered what he terms the race of the future in the wilds of Africa,

The Vancouver weather man who wants a word to cover the meaning of day and night combined, might apply to the farmhand, who works that way,

There are thirty-four measures "alto be passed on by the retty yet" voters of Oregon, and the year is young.

The man who uses a gun when his wife has left him is a blocker fool than was the woman when she married.

Let us hope that the Yohe marriage, which began amld fire, will have a peaceful progress.

Sharp advance in raw furs bodes ill to the cat and rabbit, but the supply of them is inexhaustible.

A "Montamara Festo" at Tacoma ought to whoop up things like a Mc-Namara busto.

Zapatista appears to be the Mexican time.

nates. There is no reason why the rules governing the civil service should differ in this respect from those govorning private business.

#### "Ware the Convention, Ladies!

PORTLAND, Jan. 25.—(To the Edi-tor.)—I see by the papers that my old friend and college chump, the Hon. William (Pike) Davis, the duly elected, acting and ardent chaperon, of the Oregon Equal Suffering Club, a beyy of oregon Equal Suffrage In Oregon, in fur-for woman suffrage in Oregon, in fur-therance of said cause, purposes to hold in Portland, during July or August next, "an old-style convention, but not an assembly." But what has "Pike" got "agin" an

assembly? Is it the absence of the old-style good right hand jolt, the oldstyle grab at the throat and choke the opposition out of 'em, the old-style swing of a chair, the old-style crash of the mix and the old-style pandemo-

nium galore? An "old-style convention" forsooth, and in July or August, d'ye mind, and

and in July of August, d ye mind, and in the presence of the gentle sex! From the eruptions and phantas-magoria belching forth from "Pike's Peak," the good Lord deliver us! As an "old styler" my advice to the indies, unsolicited, yet fervent, is to

stay at home with papa. Hubby ap-parently hasn't much to say about it parently hasn' it J. HENNESSY MURPHY.

#### Clew to Mystery Advanced.

PORTLAND, Jan. 27 .- (To the Editor.)-I see by The Oregonian today that a man by the name of McMullen, of Waterloo, Linn County, Or., has been missing almost two years. In Decem-ber, 1910, in conversation with Mr. Wal. ker, an undertaker of Springfield, Or., ker, an undertaker of Springfield, Or., he told me that a short time before, an old man had driven into Springfield with a team and wagon, accompanied by a young man. The old man became very ill and died. The young man left with the team and wagon and could not be found. The old man was buried at Springfield by Mr. Walker. Further information can be had by writing Mr. Walker at Springfield. The cases being somewhat similar. I thought perhaps somewhat similar, I thought perhaps this information might prove of value. A. R. MOREHOUSE, 544 Pettygrove Street.

Sale of Bonds.

PORTLAND, Jan. 25 .- (To the Editor.) -Please state the size block of bonds purchased by the Shawmut Bank of Boston, from the city of Portland, the rate paid for them and the rate of in-terest to be paid on them. Was it the largest single block of bonds ever sold by the city? SUBSCRIBER.

August 29, 1910, \$250,000, .9808; April 11, 1911, \$500,000, .9129. It was not the largest issue. The bonds bear 4 per cent interest.

#### First Continental Congress

ALBANY, Or., Jan. 26 .- (To the Ed-itor.) -- In answer to R. L. Smith's statement concerning the Continental Con-gress, I will say that this Congress was in session at Philadelphia from September 6 until October 26, 1774. Proof of my statement will be found on page 235, paragraph c, of Donn's History of the United States, the text-book used in the schools at the present time. PHYLISS GOIN, Student Albany High School,

had not reached my majority, and was still a minor when my father became a citizen of the United States. I wish to know if I have the right of suffrage, now that I am of age, without undergoing any further processes of naturaligation

Has the German department of war, under the stated circumstances, any valid claim whatever on my time or services? I believe not. HENRY C. SCHAPPERT.

I. The children of persons who have een duly naturalized being under age of 21 years at the time of naturalization shall, if dwelling in the United States, be considered as citizens thereof .--- U.

S. Naturalization Laws. 2. No.

#### Value of Potters Ciny.

WOODLAND, Wash., Jan. 25.--(To the Editor.)---(1) If a person buys land without any contract on time, and pays a part, can the party who sells it fore-close without giving the money back? Or what proceeding would he have to go through? (2) Is potters' clay very valuable. If so, where can I get definite information on the subject WILLARD RAMESBOTHAM.

1. The man who sold the property would have legal right to possession upon failure of purchaser to pay and could not be compelled to refund, in the absence of contract to the contrary. 2. Potters' clay ranges in value from a few cents per ton to \$10 to \$12. No doubt the chemistry or mineral de-partment at the state college at Pull-man, Wash, would analyze a sample.

to become thoroughly acquainted with that special knowledge of how to do the right thing at the right time. Few, if any, waiters worry themselves over whether their guest tips them or not. On principle they suppose he will, knowing that when a man just wants to eat he knows where to find a cafeteria. When he wishes to dine he knows where the best is to be found in our grills, cafes and restaurants. In all probability the new club will not survive long enough to amount to anything, because Portland's waiters know the goodness of Portland's business men, whose liberalities and gratuities for special services are too well es tablished to cause Portland's waiter much concern. CONSTANT READER. waiters

#### Jobs Beyond Reach.

PORTLAND, Jan. 28 .- (To the Editor.)-Permit me to call your attention to the fact that only a very few of the rich can enjoy the pleasures of a fine, ocean-going yacht; the great majority of the so-called rich are too poor for such pastimes. As with the rich, so with the poor. Only a comparatively few can afford to take such jobs as offered by the municipal employment agency. The great majority of the socalled poor are too rich for time. They may sign and wish and hope, but the jobs are beyond their reach as surely as the fine yacht is for the average rich. Men of extreme poverty (Christ, for instance) rank as high as men of extreme wealth. The

## Suppose for Instance

Suppose you wanted to send a message to, say, 30,000 Portland homes. A form letter would cost you at least 4 cents each-\$1200. You could take that \$1200 and use one whole page, in The Oregonian, every day for eight days. Think of how much greater effect the newspaper advertising would have over that of the letter.

Put it another way. Use the same amount of space in The Oregonian that a letter occupies. Say 81/2 inches wide by 11 inches deep. That space would cost you-one time only-just \$66. How does that compare with the \$1200?

The newspaper is the cheapest advertising medium on earth. The Oregonian is the greatest advertising medium in the Pacific Northwest. The Oregonian reaches more Portland homes every day than any other Portland newspaper. The Oregonian has a larger circulation and carries more advertising than any other Portland newspaper. Make us prove it. We will welcome your investigation.

but he must be color blind.