The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1912.

BOGUS INDICTMENT OF TAPT.

A sample of the misrepresentation which is being circulated by the anti-Taft propaganda is a series of pretended counts in an indictment of Paft. They contain within themselves evidence of the weakness of the insurgent case.

The first count reads:

Regan, his Administration with an a nee with Cannon and Aldrich. Cannon and Aldrich were the elected feaders of his party in Senate and House, and it was Taft's duty to look to them for adoption of the measures he recommended. Roosevelt did precisely the same thing when he was though he occasionally quarreled with these leaders, just as Taft has done, when they were unwill-

This is the second count:

tutional rights of the House.

fired his pairwasse power to re-elect Can-n as Speaker, with Tammany's aid. That charge is unqualifiedly false Taft stood aloof from the Speakership fight, holding that Interference would have been an invasion of the consti-

ing to carry out his recommenda-

The third count reads: Signed the Aldrich-Payne tariff bill r whing the tariff upward and commended as the best tariff ever.

The Payne-Aldrich bill does not revine the tariff upward, but makes many reductions, the most important and most extensive of which are due to his influence. He procured the in sertion of provision for the Tariff Board as the means of bringing about scientific revision of the tariff and o taking the whole subject out of politics. In view of the reductions I makes and of this provision, the Payne-Aldrich law is certainly the least had ever, which is probably what Mr. Taft meant. Writing in The Out-September 17, 1910, Colonel Roosevelt in effect commended the same law as the best tariff ever. He

I think the present tariff (Payne law) is better than the last (Dingley law) and con-siderably better than the one before the last (McKinfey law), but it has certainly failed to give general satisfaction.

Then comes this charge:

Prevented the adoption of an inco-He prevented the adoption of an income tax bill, because it would surely have been declared unconstitutional but he procured the submission to the states of a constitutional amendment making such a tax constitutional. In the meantime he induced Congress to go as far as the constitution now permits, by imposing a corporation tax, which yielded a revenue of \$20,000,000

The fifth count is: Fathered the ratirond act of 1010, which passed as drafted would have destroyed

The railroad bill of 1910, if passed as drafted, would have legalized pooling of traffic, which had been repeat edly recommended by Roosevelt; would have forbidden purchase by one railroad of stock in another; would have provided for physical valuntion of railroads, which is most vigcrously advocated by Senator La Pollette; and would have removed the the act of 1906, which rendered that clause practically a dead letter. The bill as drafted would have strengthened instead of destroying rallroad regulation. The elimination of the provisions mentioned weakened it seriously. New provisions inserted by Congress strengthened it in some particulars, and Taft approved the bill as

равкей. As the sixth count the Roosevelt men say Taft

Pathered the commerce court to su and nullify decisions of the Interstate

This statement implies that, but for the creation of the Commerce Court, no court would have power to suspend and nullify decisions of the Commerce Commission. The fact is that such power has always been vested in the Federal courts and cannot be taken away without amending the Constitu-The law almply transferred this jurisdiction from the other lower Federal courts to the Commerce Court, with the effect of expediting decisions and of developing a bench of judges who would be specialists on railroad The law provides for appeals direct from the Commerce Court the Supreme Court, thus further expediting decisions. The court was created not "to suspend and nullify, but to review decisions, and it has affirmed many such decisions.

Count No. 7 reads: Veined all sariff hills passed as the extra seasons, investing duties, claiming intelli-gent action impossible until the Tariff Com-

That statement is true as far as it goes, but it is only half the truth. The other half is that Taft had laid down a tariff policy, which provides for reuctions where the facts, as ascertained by the Tariff Board, justify it and that the vetoed bills conflicted with that policy and were full of blunders. That Taft is sincerely in favor of tariff reduction is proved by his messages recommending sweeping reductions in the wool and cotton duties in accordance with the Tariff Board's report.

Colonel Roosevelt himself controverted this charge also before it was made by declaring in a speech delivered at Sioux Falls, Ia., September 3. "I am glad that the country seems to have awakened to the idea that a tariff commission offers the only solution of the problem which is both rational and insures the absence of Jobbery.

Count No. 8 makes this charge: Negotiated in secret a pact and forced it brough Congress, for Canadian reciprocity, rithout a thought of asking the Tariff Com-

velt men have treaties negotiated in mass meeting? Taft forced the reciprocity bill through Congress because public opinion was overwhelmingly in its favor and the Democrats therefore fared not vote against it. He did not onsult the Tariff Board on its provi ions, because such action was t many, the facts relating to the duties being already known. He made one exception and obtained a report from the Tariff Board on the pulp and pa per industry. On this report the du ties provided in the bill were based. It was good policy to negotiate such treaty at a time when the Canadian

government was willing, rather than o risk a change of government in anada by delaying negotiations until the Tariff Board reported on all Its

Colonel Roosevelt, whose manager now attack President Taft's reciproc ity policy, spoke on this question, too at the Lincoln day dinner of the Republican Club of New York, on February 13, 1911. He said:

ary 13, 1911. He said:

If should strays be a cardinal point I
our foreign policy to establish the closes
and most friendly telations of equal respecand advantage with our great neighbor o
the morth. And I half the reciprocity ar
rangement because it represents an effor
to bring about a closer, a more intimate
a more friendly relationship or mutual as
vaniage on equal terms between Canada
and the United States.

The minth and last count reads:

The ninth and last count reads: Advocated Government-built and owned has between this country and Fanama; then angsed his mind and abandoned the policy ving the railroads their first great vic-

The subject of steamship lines to onnect with the Panama Railroad was inquired into on behalf of the Government by Senator Bristow during the Roosevelt administration, and he recommended a Government steamship line on the Pacific, one having been already established on the Atlan-President Roosevelt never recommended action by Congress on that report. Taft has never-recommended the establishment of a Government steamship line on the Pacific, but he recommended another measure which would as effectually attain the same end, for in his message of December,

1910, he said: I cannot close this reference to the canal houst suggesting as a wise amendment the interstate commerce law a provision whileting interstate commerce railroads on owning or controlling ships engaged in trade through the Panama Canal.

That recommendation, if carried out, would effect the purpose of Government steamship line, for it would insure real competition with The House committee has ecommended such a law in its report on the canal.

The Roosevelt men say these acts of Taft "are diametrically opposed to what Roosevelt denominated 'my licies' and show clearly that Taft has deserted and betrayed Rooseveltot Roosevelt Taft." On the contrary Taft's actions, truly stated and interpreted, prove that he has adhered to the Roosevelt policies. In his treatment of the trusts he has succeeded better than Roosevelt himself in rying out those policies, but the indictment is eloquently silent on that subject. He cannot have been false to Roosevelt's tariff policy, for Roosevelt had none. If this be the strongest indictment the Roosevelt men can make against Taft, they have a miserably weak case.

TAFT AND SAFETY.

A current political article describes reactionary as one who has stopped and cannot start; and a radical as one who has started and cannot stop. Perhans it would be as well to say that a radical is one who has started some thing he cannot stop. Perhaps also it would be well to describe the ideal citizen as a "conservative with a move Woodrow Wilson so spoke of himself to a group of his admiring friends. President Taft is another inservative going ahead at a sane and President Roosevelt in safe gait. 1998 pictured Mr. Taft in these memprable words:

orable words:
In Mr. Taft we have a clean man, who combines all these qualities to a degree which no other man in our public life since the Civil War has surpassed. . To permit the direction of our public affairs to fall alternately into the hands of revolutionaries and reactionaries, of extreme radicals of unrest and of higoted conservatives who recognise no wrong to remedy would

The statesman who was neither revolutionary nor reactionary was then Colonel's Roosevelt's ideal. But listen further to this deserved and heartfelt Roosevelt tribute:

He would be as emphatically a Presiden f the plain people as Lincoln, yet not Lin-oln himself would be freer from the least aint of demanogy, the least tendency to rease, to appeal to class hatred or any led

If President Taft four years ago was all that Colonel Roosevelt said he was, he is the same just, fearless, upright, kindly and honest man today. He has not changed. But Colonel Roosevelt has changed, vastly changed. Both the country and Colonel Roosevelt are losers through the change.

DICTATORS AND KINGS.

Colonel Roosevelt's comparison of present-day Kings to a Vice-President for life, with the leadership of the Four Hundred thrown in, is true to life, but it would not fit a man who climbed to a dictatorship by successive elections to the Presidency. Such a man would more closely resemble the founder of a royal dynasty. He would have attained kingship by his own genius and force of character. Such men exercised all the powers of kingship, and so would a dictator. Only their weak descendants, who gained the royal title without the struggle which proves their fitness or ability to rule, have sunk to the level of Vice-Presidents and leaders of the Four Hundred.

The people would have as much to fear from the weak descendants of a atrong man who fought his way to the dictatorship, in case he made his power hereditary, as from the first of the line. History shows that royal families degenerate, leaving the exercise of power to ministers who commit acts of tyranny in their name when their power is absolute. Should the first dictator not found a hereditary line of rulers, the country would sink to the condition of Mexico, one strong man after another seizing the reins by physical force.

No man who has watched the career and studied the character of Roosevelt can imagine him content to be so comparatively innocuous a personage as a Vice-President or a leader of the Four Hundred.

James Ruoy died a few days ago at his home in Husum, Wash., at the age of \$2 years, during sixty-two of which he had been sightless. His life is noted as an example of possible attainment in industrial ways under the How else was a treaty ever negotiat-ed than in secret? Would the Roose-this misfortune he was stricken in government. Another was recognition

early manhood, yet he secured a homestead in the regular way and made many improvements upon it, and preferred sawing wood to idleness up to a few years ago, when failing strength compelled him to desist. His life was an example in patience, cheerfulness and usefulness. In the words of Helen Hunt Jackson, "Though blind, he never felt accursed," but walked humbly and natiently his shadowed way to the end.

OATHS AND CHICKENS.

No doubt the chickens which are to e slain in court next month to fortify the veracity of Chinese witnesses will be given to the poor after they have served this more sacred purpose. there is any way to make witnesses tell the truth, we favor its use, no matter though it involves the slaughter of geese as well as chickens. Experience eems to prove, however, that there is no such way. Many human beings say on the witness stand what they think will benefit the cause they favor and harm the one they oppose, and the law is powerless to prevent them from doing so.

The truth-compelling power of an oath is largely imaginary. Its principal effect is to give greater impressiveness to the falsehoods which are uttered under its sanction. A "wrong story" told on a shoe box in the village store is apt to be judged for what it is worth by the attentive neighbors. The same story told in court under the awful shadow of an oath gains a certain credence which it does not intrinsically deserve. Taken for all in all the judicial oath is perhaps the most active incentive to perjury we have in all our court machinery.

A great part of the effort of a cer tain class of lawyers is to make oppos ing witnesses seem to be perjurers Every witness is sure to be called a flar half a dozen times betestimony, and since he has to bear the stigma, why not enjoy the benefit? Thus he reasons, and who shall say that his logic is not sound? If lawwould learn to treat witnesse with decent courtesy, they would help the cause of truth more than by the slaughter of many hens.

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

The bill proposing amendment to the homestead law by reducing the time of residence in order to secure title from five years to three passed the House of Representatives Wednesday. Senator Borah, of Idaho, who is an earnest champion of the measure, feels confident that at no distant day we will have a three-year homestead

Only those who are conversant with the facts incident to securing a homestead by living upon and cultivating 160 acres of land for a period of five onsecutive years can properly appraise the value of this reduction time in the interest of the settler. The homesteader who, without resources files upon an area of wild land in re sponse to the desperate longing to secure a home for himself and family, represents courage that is little short of sublime and purpose that is distinctly creative and consequently of

slow development. The successive steps of this laudable desire to own a home and land sufficient to support it are represented first by a little clearing in which a cabin or shack is erected to serve the first need of the family; next, by a clearing about the home that will serve the purpose of a garden and dooryard; a few chickens and chicken coops, a plow, borrowed horse, exchanging work for a day now and then with a neighbor, shift and makeshift in every way to secure the first season's seed; intermittent work with ax and mattock meadow, oat field or orchard; the most pinching economy in the matter of clothing, groceries, shoes and schoolbooks for the children-these are phases and incidents of the first years of the settler's endeavor on the homestead

Satisfied with his honest intent at omebuilding, the Government should make terms with the homesteader that would make possible the acceptance of its gift of land without wearing out himself and his wife and causing the growing children to hate farm work and hie early to the city. The amend. ment pending is a step in the right di-

PERNICIOUS LAW-GIVING.

Perhaps some worthy and needed reforms are proposed in the latest effort of Mr. U'Ren and a few associates to enact a new constitution, but if any obviously good changes are incorporated in the "cabinet amendment" they are hopelessly interwoven with new and untried schemes for which the writings of theorists the world over have apparently been combed. Without questioning the good intentions of men who walk with their heads in the clouds of theory and experiment, the latest URen production may be fittingly termed a perniclous use by individuals of a reserve power granted the people.

The initiative was not adopted in Oregon with the remotest idea by the people that it ever would be used as a neans of proposing overthrows of established forms of government Among advocates of direct legislation whose opinions have weight with a noticeable proportion of the public there is hardly one in the Nation who proposes or indorses the initiative as more than a supplement of or check upon the Legislature, to be used at the infrequent times when the lawmaking body neglects or refuses to respond to the will of the people. Moreover, the voters of Oregon have plainly pressed opposition to complicated and revolutionary measures. They posse an antipathy to amendments or bills that cannot be readily understood. They are firmly wedded, if results of the 1910 election are a gauge of sentiment, to the doctrine that it is wisest, when in doubt, to vote "no."

But the URen committee would override the intent of the people. It would cast back in the face of the voters their refusal to countenance initiative abuses. It would go contrary to sane and progressive statesmanship. It would inflict an unnecessary and profitless burden of study and expense upon the public.

Some of the changes proposed by the committee were presented in 1910 in a long and complicated amendment. Chief among these was "proportional representation." In that proposed amendment "proportional representation" was not provided in the exact form now to be submitted, but in some of the essentials it was the same. The amendment was defeated by more than 7000 votes. Several factors entered into the negative voting of the electors. One was opposition to ex-

of a plain attempt at initiative logrolling in preparation of the mean Another was objection to presentation of other than simple and easily under inability of the ordinary voter to give the measure the study necessary to gain a clear understanding of its provisions. In addition many foresaw un desirable results from its enactment.

In drafting a new constitution Mr. U'Ren and his committee have sought to overcome the objections volced to their other amendment Good and doubtful features are combined and thereby "initiative logroll-ing" is again attempted. The new measure is much more intricate than its predecessor. It is to a greater extent revolutionary. It is far more visionary. A query may reasona-bly be propounded to the framto whether they think it is a better plan than the one they presented in 1910, or believe scheme not so good. As herein stated, "proportional representation" proposed now is not the same "pro tional representation" advocated the last election. If we had adopted the 1919 plan, would it be neces sary to amend it now? If not, why not resubmit the 1910 scheme? The public has given that plan more or less study, and can voterupon it with bet-ter knowledge. If the new scheme is better than the 1910 plan, is it the last word in "proportional representation" or is "proportional representation" an untried experiment about which its advocates are themselves in doubt?

This new constitution-it is that in fact, although it is termed an amend ment-is submitted for discussion as the product of the executive committee of the People's Power League. In view of recent disclosures it may also be pertinently asked whether all the members of the committee who give it indorsement understand its provisions. The Presidential primary bill adopted in 1910 came from the same source A year later one of the committee deelined to construe the act on the ground that he had never studied the measure and did not fully understand it. Is this true of the "cabinet amend ment"? Has the committee turned the work over to Mr. U'Ren? Or is Mr. U'Ren presenting his schemes un-

der a masquerade? But, regardless of its authorship, the proposal to wreck established forms of state and county government, re-build them with untested material and decorate them with visionary gingerbread, deserves, in the light of what the voters have said about similar attempts at governmental reconstruction, to be termed pernicious activity To ask the voters to pass upon a measure that could not be adequately outlined or summarized in one and half columns of The Oregenian is presuming on good nature. To present it at a time when the people's thought is largely centered on a Presidential election and the filling of county and state offices is preposterous. To ask careful onsideration of such a problem when forty or more legislative tasks for the people are already in prospect is ridic-

The postoffice committee of the House has recommended experimental establishment of the parcels post on rural delivery routes only for two years, parcels to be carried only from point to another on the same In the meantime, inquiry is to route. be made into all the problems involved in establishment of a general parcels post. The committee estimates that the experiment can be made at slight additional expense, as the equipment is already in service and will need change on only 15 per cent of the routes. It would seem that with the experience of nearly every nation, from Japan to argentina, to guide us, such extreme caution is unnecessary.

A church is an odd place for men to tight in, but the Oakland pair of enemies who chose one for that purpos might have cited many precedents. In olden times a favorite way of disposing of obnoxious Kings was to stab them while they were saying their prayers in church. The sacred edifice has been put to many other strange uses, such as stabling horses. The monastery where Leonardo's "Last Supper" was painted on the wall was made a stable by French cavalry in 1499 and a hole cut through the picture for a door.

There can be no such thing as the settlement" of an L. W. W. strike. The order frankly proclaims its purpose to call strike after strike until it has absorbed the entire profit of every industry.

With bright prospects for peace it Great Britain, we will have mining troubles on this side in plenty, but warm weather is coming and the suffering will be light.

If Mayor Rolph would drench the I. W. W. with the hose, the shudders with which they threaten the whole world would be felt by themselves.

Why not run schoolchildren through a vacuum cleaner each day as they en-The rising generation must be ter? protected from the germ at any cost. The Fort Stevens girls may be able

to get along without mere man at a dance, but it is very convenient to have a man come home on payday. Men who fail to register have no

right to feel disgruntled when the vote is counted. There are yet ten days for dilatory people. The animal that rides in the Hu-

mane Society's automobile ambulance will have distinction above his fellows. Chronic drunks must have the forlorn feeling when they gaze on the dismantied City Jail.

Use of a Senatorial frank is not violation of the corrupt practices act. It is simple thrift. Community of interest may explain

the Senate's unwillingness to unseat Stephenson. Young Hichborn was foolish to commit suicide, but too sensible to commit

Testimony shows everything came easy to the right men on Spokane's Tacoma may now find an excuse to

murder.

have the alleged census padding restored. The pannier skirt is an invention to demoralize the bulbous woman

Having kalsomined Stephenson, no less was due Lorimer.

RATES DECLARED EXTORTIONATE | MAN'S PERSONAL IDEAS PREVAIL Writer Compares New Schedule With Prices Set by Mt, Hood Co.

PORTLAND, March 28 .- (To the Ed or.)-Mr. Gaston has put forth very strong showing against the P. R. L. & P. Co. in its pretensions of public benefit and prayer for consideration as voiced by Mr. Clark. The truth is, that it would be difficult searching the world over for a more unblushing outrage against a people than this last attempt at extertion, promulgated in a guise as if we were being handed out a benefaction rather than attempt at highway robbery. This may seem a pretty stout statement and we will proceed to verify it.

The Mt. Hood Railway, Light & Power Company offered power to me for constant use at \$58 per horse per annum for 10-horse power. After July 1, 1912, the power installation of moderate-size plants, say up to 30 moderate-size plants, say up to 30 or 40-horse power per new schedule of the P. R., L. & P. Co. is the first 4 per cent at 7 cents per K. W. hour of possible maximum; next 4 per cent at 5 cents per K. W. hour and excess at 5 cents per K. W. hour and excess over 8 per cent at 2 cents per K. W. hour. By reducing K. W. to horse power on this schedule, assuming that 12-horse power was contracted, it fol-lows (in round numbers) that one-half-horse power (four per cent) at 7 cents, means \$304; the next half-horse power (4 per cent) at 5 cents, is \$301; the balance of 11-horse power at 2 cents, \$1441; total, \$1946.

This therefore averages \$162 per horse power under the new schedule. The rate means the use of 12-horse power for one year of 24 hours per day, as against the rate of \$58 per horse power per annum offered by the Mt. Hood line

enormity of this exaction is put in greater contrast to measure it the average cost set for power in the City of Ottawa, Canada, where the average rate from a dozen competitive powers in that city is \$10.40 per horse per annum constant use, a difference of over 1600 per cent. Portland is almost as favorably situated and wit half its power a distance of 30 miles while Portland brings about half 40 miles. Think of the puerlity, the slavishness, the imbecility of nearly slavishness, the imbecility of nearly 250,000 people here who submit to such

tortion, we read of an increase of the mortgage bonds of the company that ex-ploits us to \$75,000,000. This, with their capital stock, must far exceed \$100,000. 000 in stocks and bonds. It is admitted that some \$40,000,000 of these bonds are issued without present necessity. probably to be left to soak for a few years until the people have forgotton, and then saddled on their backs as part of legitimate capitalization.

This company, which, by the recent accusation of the Government, is part and parcel of the waterpower combine which is interfocked and correlated with the big business syndleate, of which Morgan is the head, seems lost to every sense of prudence in instituting a rate over three times higher than for which power by steam in wood or coal can be manufactured, and over eight times higher than powers make by the producer

It advertised in The Oregonian less than a year ago that It had 170,000 horsepower of water installation under way; if this could be let out unde the lowest rate named by them under the new schedule, 5 mills per K. W. would produce a rental of ver \$5,500,000.

However, in order to put the matter in concrete shape, will say that I will bring 6000 horsepower of water to the city limits in 18 months from the time the contract is signed, for city bonds to the amount of \$600,000, 80 per cent payable as the work progresses, the city to guarantee their sale at par. By this means it will be seen that the (if the bonds bear 5 per cent), besides the upkeep and city installation, which would be no more. This offer includes he waterpower and when 6000 horse power is absorbed will give as much more for \$50,000 less.

I am merely stating this to acquaint the general reader of what can be done under economical managemen without padding for the grafters and politicians, and would gladly good if the opportunity was offered me CHARLES P. CHURCH

AUDITOR NOT AUDITOR IN FACT. Accounting of City Books Should Be Left to Independent Experts.

PORTLAND, March 26.—(To the Edi-or.)—In the matter of the incorporating into the proposed commission char-ter the civil service as the civil service as at present administered and safeguarded, I notice that there seems to be some confusion as to the system or plan of sudit of the accounts of the city. The difference of opinion appears to center around the office now commonly known as City

As I'understand the duties of the socalled office of City Auditor, this of-ficer is in no sense an auditor, in the full meaning of the word, but is an administrative official who is at the head of this feature of the city's business and bears a fixed responsibility as to the proper maintenance of all origi-nal entries pertaining to the correct accounting of the business of the nu-

Under a commission form of government, the office should be appointive This is the opinion of the best munici-pal experts who have investigated the

The matter of a continuous audit of the accounts of the city has no relation to the office of City Auditor but should be in the hands of the commis-sioners who would retain competent practicing public accountants of the City of Portland for the purpose of making a thorough independent yearly audit with the resultant complete financial report, covering the full opera-tions of the business of the city, to the commissioners at the end of the fiscal

This selection of independent auditors could be made (as has already been suggested) by the commissioners from a list of accountants certified by the Clearing-house association or in the event of the Legislature enacting a ertified public accountants law at the ext session, the appointment could be made from the public records of regis-tered accountants on file in the office of the Secretary of State in Salem.
This matter should have the closest
attention of taxpayers. The proper
maintenance of the accounts of the city, county and state is a very important matter, and too little attention been paid to the same in the past. In any event the matter should be taken out of the hands of the politi-JOHN Y. RICHARDSON.

Scotchmen and the Gallows. COOKS, Wash., March 25,-(To the Editor.)—To settle a mild question you please help me out, depending on memory only? Was ever a Scotchnan hanged in the United States?

The Oregonian, "depending on memory alone," agrees with Mr. Cahill.

BRA DO.

Kansas City Times.

According to a new Swedish method of using peat for fue, the dried peat is first brought to a fine powder and is then blown into the furnace by an air fan.

Conception of Christ Varies With the

Individual Angle of View. PORTLAND, March 28.—(To Editor.)-Mr. Wood's views of Christ may be likened to Theodore Parker's "Views of Religion" inasmuch as they are personal ideas, although containing much instructive truth, and ar well worth reading. Unfortunated radical pen rarely falls to lack ho Unfortunately a geneity and balance, therefore in Mr. Wood's article in Sunday's Oregonian one may expect a few decrials and eulogies planted about in a little Eden

of surcasm and wit.

of surcasm and wit.
"Do you know who Christ was?" a
fellow-worker once said to me, "Well,
he was just like one of those Socialist
fellows, that's what he was. He
'cussed' the rich and told them to
divide with the poor; he reviled the
priests and called them hypocrites; he cleaned out a den of thieves posling as business men, in the temple. That's the Socialist of today." And here, believe, is the keynote of the whole matter. One glances at a thing of situation and one's ideas of the sub-ject is immediately affected by his seculiar angle of observation. William Archer and his cabal of parls of the soap-hox in Portland, the ide: persists that Christ was a of the ideal non-individualistic man be whom the race stream of initiativ effort had branched into the true channel of community life. And, in deed, many of his words and practice bear out the belief. "Sell all thou has give to the poor; the last shall be first beware of the scribes; take no though for tomorrow; provide neither scrip no purse; consider the lilies, they toil not, neither do they spin," and a hun-dred others are good Socialist gospel, but which the world singularly has falled to adopt. And why? philosopolical anarchist like Mr. Wood whose Christ seems to be an obscurforeshadow with an Aramate cast of the fanciful lawless ideal of today would scarcely quote the above scrip ture as an authoritative gospel Taine called Milton's Jehovah

drill sergeant so we may regard Christ in whatever attitude constitutes our inant mental activity; Milton Gromwell's iron face and shot-and-powder before him could scarcely help adjusting his theogony to the prevalent situation. Similarly to the Christian Scientist and Emmanuelife Christ is a magical healer and adjuster of a defer nceptor of regenerative immersion is water; to James Martineau, the apostle of human brotherhood; to The Paine, a free thinking Jew far good, radical and plain spoken to let live; to Huxley, a half mythical per-sonage possessed with delusions conerning demons, angels and other su

pernatural phenomena.
In fact, he is whatever one wishes to make of him. To the vast majority of Christians he is a God and only the Theists and Unitarians regard him in the larger sense of the Great Brother of Men. He is also that chimerical beckening ideal that urges one on to a better life, that restores equilibrium in the whirling nebulae of the mora world. Thus a man bearing a heavy burden of guilt is delivered, like Bunyan or Fox, or one who seeks spiritual expression in deeds of mercy unheld as St. Francis or St. Vin ent De Paul.
Why not formulate a real philosophy

as to the nature of the spiritual world? An hour or two of pragmatic thought every week would set one right in a great many ideas of other and we hope better, conditions. These we face from day to day are intolerable. It is a small satisfaction to have fine linen while another has rags, it is true ut we may have worked for our linen Only an egotist believes any schem of his is a divine solution for human lils. "In 12 months," said Confucius "I could make a happy kingdom, bu

no prince will accept my principles. He died sorrowing over the thought. As a political philosophy Socialism may be an excellent thing, but religion it is assuredly not. With Wil-ham James I believe Christ was the Christian mystic and methods anyone conscious of sin may be delivered and by conversion enter into a peculiar mystical communion with the divine, churches do not exisfor a vague purpose. Their com-cants are struggling for higher This, Christ evidently reveals to them. Only a few find it. C. A. OLSON 528 Northrup Street.

Absence From Homesteads,

BEND, Or., March 24 .- (To the Editor.).—Has a single man who has a 326-acre homestead any right to go out and work four or five months of ner without a permit from the

Also, could any one contest the nomestead in his absence, said homestead well improved?
A SUBSCRIBER.

A man has a right to go out and work for four or five months, provided he makes the homestead his home. He may go without a permit, but it is better to secure one from the Land Office, then there can be no question as to his intent. If the officials at the Land Office say a permis not necessary, then he can show. when he goes to prove up, that he ap plied for the permit, and can show he maintained his residence on the home

No one can jump his claim until he has been gone six months. Consider able trouble has arisen over these ab-sences, persons residing on the land only once in six months, really having residences elsewhere. construction is placed upon the law now, so that it is necessary to com-ply with it to the letter.

Half a Century Ago

om The Oregonion of March 29, 1862. Kelly, a Democrat of Clackamas ounty, has ordered his name taken from the names attached to the call or a secession convention. He sup-sosed that, when he signed the call t was for a Democratic Union convenion. He can't go the secesh

The Surveyor-General of Washington Perritory has decided in favor of the Catholic mission claim to a large part f the plat of Vancouver City This de-ision will be subject to revision by the commissioner of the General Land Ofice and after that the case may go

Amos E. Rogers, of Jackson County, has been appointed sub-Indian Agent for Oregon, and we learn his bonds are approved.

The Churchville Gazette imputed the defeat of Zeillcoffer's army to the drunkenness of General Chittenden, and strongly intimates that "treason, treachery and cowardice" were connect-

The Memphis Avalanche says that Crittenden is charged with having sold the army at Somerset for \$17,800.

Many fires have occurred in Washington lately, which the papers there say are known to be the work of incen-

Marklett's passenger train left Yreka for the Salmon River mines on the 11th, 12th and 13th. There were about 50 persons in this expedition. The road expedition, consisting of 40 men, went ut previously.

Mr Henry Vanness, a gentleman who has had the misfortune of losing one of his limbs, has on exhibition in this ity a fine collection of stereoscopic views, many of them taken from life. Among them is a view of the battle ground of Bull Run, Ball's Bluff, etc., and a life picture of Beauregard and his staff, and one of Jefferson Davis, esident of the Southern Confederacy, hose hands is a large telescope which he seems to be uneasily watching the movements of some of our

A grand entertainment is offered to-night at the Willamette. Mrs. Forbes and Mr. Beatty each appear in two characters. The beautiful nautical drama of "Black-eyed Susan" will begin the performance, with Mrs. Forber in her great character of William, Miss Lawrence as the lovely Susan and Mr. Beatty as Gnatbrain. "Don Caesar de Basam." a romantic and musical drama on three acts, will conclude the per-formance with Mr. Beatty as Don Caesar and Mrs. Forbes as Maritana. Miss Lawrence will sing several of her best songs and with them "Ridin' in a Rallway Keer.

The Board of Common Council, at their meeting last night, passed an ordinance granting to William S. Ladd and associates the exclusive right to lay water pipes through the streets of Portland for the term of 30 years.

As "Ed" Howe Sees Life

A man can accomplish nothing, exept to get hungry, without effort,

We no longer plow with a crooked stick, but politics is the same old crooked stick it always was. Reform is as slow now as was plowing in the days of the crooked stick plow. About the most uninteresting thing

s a bum social event. Relieving foolish lies is almost as bad

s telling them. In a fist fight the aggressor is always the larger man of the two; the little man fights in the hope that the crowd

will pull the big man off before he can do much damage. From ancient times riot and reform have alternated, the rioting always lasting longer than the reform.

The farmers were meant when the term "workingman" was originally used; they are the real thing when it s to working long hours at low Yet they have never struck but twice; the Populist year, and the Granger year, and the town men soon settled both walkouts.

A good thing is not better than it is, and to say that it is, is a brown lie.

The office of chief ruler was once offered to the highest bidder. The man who bid in the royal palace, and the right to occupy it, proposed to raise the purchase price by taxation. One dissatisfied farmer asked the new king: By what argument do you justify this action?" The new king pointed to the army, and replied: "My argument is 20,000 awords." The argument presoldiers were the politicians in those days,

"I have tried all things," old people my, "and all is of little value,"

A Woman's Hair Brush.

Louisville Courier-Journal. woman can't drive a nail "Not with a hammer, possibly. But ou give her a hair brush and she can rive a nail as well as anybody."

"And does this fat little boy belong in your crowd?" "No'm; we just use him to try the ice with before we go skatin'."

New Special Features

The Sunday Oregonian The Way of the Matchmaker-An exposition by Laura Jean Libbey of the wiles of matrous who act as agents for Cupid. A full page,

superbly illustrated. Americans of the Puture-They will become a super-race, says

noted scholar, who presents a half page of remarkable interest. Man to Conquer the Amazon-A page, illustrated with photos, on the wonderful Amazon Valley, which is big enough to accommodate

the population of the whole world. Playing the Game From the Bench-Tenth of Christy Mathewson's stories of the big leaguers.

April Fooling Nature-A page on the capers Government men play on shrubs, plants and animals.

Fables in Slang-George Ade writes for Sunday's Oregonian three

new fables with the usual Ade dash and fun. The pictures are by

Albert Levering. Two Complete Short Stories; illustrated.

The Jump-Ups-They make the acquaintance of a "nobleman."

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