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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1912.

WITHER BOUND?

Theodore Roosevelt is a friend of the Initiative and referendum. So he said in Oregon. "But you Oregon people are subjecting the Initiative to great risks and abuses."

Woodrow Wilson has been converted from an academic and philosophical opponent of the Oregon system to an admiring and eloquent advocate.

In 1908 sixteen measures were proposed under the Initiative and referendum.

In 1910 thirty-two measures were proposed under the Initiative and referendum.

In 1912 forty or more measures are to be proposed under the Initiative and referendum.

HAVE WE A CONSTITUTION?

In connection with the good roads measures the question has been raised in Medford as to whether an act now unconstitutional can be passed simultaneously with the amendment which is needed to make such an act constitutional.

There is no exact precedent that the courts might be expected to follow.

THE PARCELS POST BILL.

A bill for the expansion of the present parcel post law, introduced by Senator Bourne, the general plan is highly commendable, but it is marred by the fixing of hard and fast rates by law and the denial of discretion to the executive officer for meeting unforeseen contingencies.

limitation reaches back to the procedure on bills to be adopted at the same time the limitation is removed in order to rely on that type of technical legal construction from which the courts of Oregon have recently cut loose.

DIFFERENT WHEN THE OX IS YOUNG.

Mr. Taft is reported by an informed journalistic onlooker at Washington to be aiming everybody who calls at the White House what is the matter with him? Nobody appears to be able to give a convincing reply.

No one can find a good reason. One thinks the fault is with Taft. Another that it is with the people.

These words of caution and admonition come from the foremost American advocates of popular rights.

NOT ALL HARMONY IN DEMOCRACY.

One source of weakness in Clark's candidacy is the support of W. R. Hearst. That support may win votes for him among the independent element, but it may lose an equal number among the element which looks with suspicion on Hearst and all with whom he affiliates.

Republicans can find some comfort in turning their eyes to their internal dissensions to those of their opponents.

There is an amount of active interest in public affairs which will expedite the work of the party which has been striving valiantly to win them during the last 20 years.

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VEILS AND BANDAGES.

The movement for the emancipation of Turkish women from some of the restrictions of the harem has not ended very encouragingly.

about unveiled thrust upon us against our own desire." The Young Turk party are not firm enough in the saddle to ignore the reactionaries, so they have been obliged to revoke the privileges which they granted the progressive women a few months ago.

PROGRESS IN HEALTH.

It is just as well to remind the public occasionally how much better in almost every way the world is now than it was a century ago.

At the close of the war some New York streets were paved with cobblestones, others with granite, and all were frightfully filthy.

In spite of all we hear to the contrary, the average length of life has increased in the last 100 years and all are more healthful.

Reform in matters of public health began at about the same time that women began to take a pronounced part in the practice of medicine.

STRONG ON IMPROVEMENTS.

Mr. C. A. Moseley, whose letter is published today, that keen and forceful reasoning power so often found among single taxers.

Likewise, we suppose, when the Oregonian comments on railway disimprovements, that means the disimprovement by Big Business, Mr. Moseley, who is so apt at drawing inferences, can no doubt see a drift toward Bryanism, Rooseveltism, La Folletteism or any other politicalism that he happens to advocate for immediate dealing with the truth.

LANDLUBBERS SHOULD MAKE LAW.

Non-Seafaring Writer Suggests Plans for Safer Ship Travel.

Portland, May 9.—(To the Editor.) We landlubbers should make some maritime laws for our safety when we go to sea.

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Methodist Church Discipline Writer Argues Against Relaxation as to Certain Amusements.

RAINIER, Or., May 9.—(To the Editor.)—Being a reader of The Oregonian I noticed an editorial May 3 entitled "Relaxing the Discipline," predicated on the actions of the quadrennial conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church which is in session at Minneapolis.

The Methodist Church as a whole stands on the same plane today as regards the social and religious conditions of mankind as it did when it was instituted in England to bring the country back to a higher line of Christian life, which had been lost through commercialism.

The Methodist church has never tried to force its will on the people through any political body or coercion by legislation; that is not its purpose.

If the Christian church cannot be distinguished from any other organization in regard to its personnel, then the mission of Christ was a failure and we were of all men most miserable.

What percent of inmates in houses of confinement were started on their downward course through the ballroom and their attendants—wine and liquor? I think statistics will show that the Christian church to say the least has done more for the world than any other.

If the Christian church has no influence for good in the world, its mission is a failure and we are of all men most miserable.

The folly of the first is seen at a glance, and the last is impossible, hence the churches must establish a standard of Christian life that will not palliate sin and from which social conditions, either good or bad, can be removed.

We cannot suppose that the word of God has become impracticable because of the conditions of modern times.

As a result of this we have the doctrine of the Christian the editor of the present magazine.

FEATURES OF PLANS IN DISPUTE.

Writer insists Bennett drawings locate Federal Building Uptown.

PORTLAND, May 9.—(To the Editor.)—The sense of justice is strong in every intelligent Portlander. In The Oregonian, April 28, page 15, Mr. Charles B. Merrick officially submits a letter that my attention was not called to earlier because of absence when published.

Mr. Merrick, among other things, speaking of my letter published in The Oregonian, April 28, says: "The features of the Bennett plans for Greater Portland as exhibited to the public, because I believe them impractical and ill-considered, says:

Mr. Seaberg has made some misstatements; whether based upon prejudice, ignorance or upon willful intention to tell an untruth, I do not know.

The general public is interested in arriving at a true appreciation and in a truthful discussion of the merits of the Bennett plans, and just what those plans exhibit.

It seems we are in fair way of forming a committee of citizens, either Mr. Merrick or myself as president, which is much to be regretted.

Portland, May 9.—(To the Editor.)—I have read with much pleasure the editorial in The Oregonian on responsible judges, and while I do not presume that you are particularly interested in "What difference does it make to you in a clean-cut way what to my mind is the sound and defensible view of the whole matter in relation to our courts and to the Judges thereof.

Half a Century Ago From The Oregonian of May 10, 1862.

The following are the nominations made by the Jackson County Union convention held May 3: For Senator, Jacob Wagner; Representatives, Lindsay Applegate, S. D. Vandayke and J. D. Haines.

The life of Reuben Davis, of the Kentucky Fifth, was saved at Fort Donelson by a silver ball dollar in his waistcoat pocket. A rifle ball struck the coin and destroyed the figure of Liberty.

Go where you will about the city and you will notice all sorts of improvements going on. Old houses are being repaired and new ones are being built.

We learn that the trail to The Dalles is under way.

As "Ed" Howe Sees Life Men worship excitement next to money.

Nearly every worthless man frequently says, impressively: "I'll guarantee it!"

Sometimes women are disgusted with husbands, but you can always bet on their loving their kin.

After a woman has studied family life from bride to grandmother, and been successful in all the roles, she has an amount of information and experience that would do credit to an elderly judge or bishop.

Men nearly always have some great big task on hand that they can't perform, but which worries them half to death.

A man should be honest and polite for the same reason that he keeps his hand out of the fire.

It nearly always makes a man mad to read a woman's magazine.

Men may not be willing to give women the ballot, but they will promptly give them the lifeboats.

Three or four revolutionists are waiting for every political job in the country.

When a woman finds a man she can boss, she nearly always overdoes it.

USE OF NEW BRIDGE UNNECESSARY.

Retain Steel Bridge Till Broadway Structure is Done, Suggested.

PORTLAND, May 9.—(To the Editor.)—If the Council will retain the old Steel bridge until the Broadway bridge is completed the public will have little or no use for the new railroad bridge.

Changes in English Landlords. Baltimore American.

World's Largest Loom Is German. London Tit-Bits.

A Class in Politics. Wife—What is referendum? Husband—Search me! I don't know whether it's a soft drink or a part of an aeroplane.

Critiquing a Man's Work. Boston Dispatch.

Justice in Persia—An annual contribution from a Teheran correspondent about the unbelievable methods of dealing out retribution in that domain. Illustrated by photographs.

Our Ineffective Army—A study on America's military organization—or lack of organization, to be explicit. It is shown that we really haven't any army.

Young American Artists—They are forging ahead, says a Paris correspondent, who tells of the work and life of our painters abroad.

Two Short Stories, complete.

The Jumpups—They invest in art treasures.

Sambo stalks another giant, Hairbreadth Harry, Mrs. Timekiller, Slim Jim and Mr. Boss have fresh exploits. New puzzle in colors and cut-out clothes for the children.

AND A PROPOSITION OF OTHER FEATURES.

Order Today From Your Newsdealer.

FEATURES OF THE SUNDAY OREGONIAN

John T. McCutcheon's Pirate Tales—In his second story the noted cartoonist and writer tells of the cruise of the Sun Dog. Illustrated by the best drawings McCutcheon has done in years.

How to Treat Your Husband—Laura Jean Libbey gives advice to wives on just how to conduct a campaign for permanent retention of a husband.

The 37-Cent Suffrage Hat—Half a page is devoted to the remarkable creation that costs but 37 cents and yet is approved by fashion.

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