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THE PEOPLE'S WILL.

The public has had notice that through the initiative certain issues decided at the election of 1912 are to be resubmitted to the voters. if the way is to be left open to the paid agitator, the legislative promoter, the Constitution-mender and the hired petition-chaser. An Oregon system that makes practicable and certain the determination of important public may be made the instrument for the constant object of misuse for frivolous, improper and undesirable measures is open to just criticism.

All agree that the initiative and

used; and nearly_all agree that certain modifications and amendments ought to be made, and limitations fixed, if the public interest is to be actionism to survive. But the precise character of the changes and corrections is not altogether clear. The defects are glaringly plain; the remedles are not easily determined. The Oregonian offers here a summary of the prinproposals for revision of the initiative and referendum for the purpose of fixing them in the public mind and of inviting attention to shem by the 1913 Legislature. They are:

(1) Let the initiative be restricted to the consideration and adoption (or rejection) of constitutional amendments (as in Switzerland).

(2) Require every proposal under the initiative to be submitted first to the Legislature for adoption. If the Legislature refuses, let the measure go automatically to the referendum, giving the Legislature the right to submit an alternative measure.

(3) Limit the number of measures on the ballet. (4) Prohibit submission of the same measure (such as single tax, prohibition, capital punishment) at two suc-

cessive elections. (5) Require all petitions to be gned in presence of a public official, (6) Make it unlawful for our pubofficer (except the Governor or the Legislature) to propose any meas-

ure affecting his own public service If a referendum is invoked, provide for an immediate election, after due notice, following the ad-

journment of the Legislature. measures (such as county divisi consolidation of cities, etc.) to a refer-

endum of the people concerned. clear that it has not offered the foreits own plan; for if some of the pronot be. It has small faith, for example, in any plan to limit the num

going schedule of possible changes as posals shall be adopted, others should ber of measures on the ballot; and it does not see that any limitation can he placed upon the right or power to call for a referendum on any mean ure, beyond the present constitutional restrictions. If we are to have the refendum; but if we are to have the initiative, it is clear that there ought to be a defined and exact method for its use, and that the popular will or desire for new legislation should be sed only through the available machinery of representative govern-We cannot have an organized de

mocracy if we are to persist in ignoring the orderly and systematized methods of carrying out, through duly selected representatives, the popular

gularly in need of protection. It must be defended not only from actual foes, but from those who may possibly be sacred integrity is by shooting. Not long ago the fair but frail spouse of a haughty Texan, who loves his honor. ore than his neighbor's life, ran away with another man. The insulted husband avenged his soiled honor by shooting the betrayer's father. We dare say the aunt or the grandmother would have done passably well if the father had not been available. Texan honor required was that somebody would be shot and it did not matter much who might happen to be chosen for the vicarious sacrifice-

After the father had thus atoned for his son's offense to the Texan home the cloping wife was restored to the rejoicing bosom of her militant husband and the second act of the drama opened. The son, the betrayer, honor now demanded another shoot-ing. So the husband, ever ready to perform his duty under the unwritten

law, scored another death. ome was unarmed when he was shot down, but Texan honor, as it seems, deed, it has been averred that it pre-fers the back of a victim to the face, fers the back of a victim to the face, thirty years. At the age of 82 he is not enter into this contention, and that it usually selects unarmed to be driven into retirement, for he Oregonian has been, and still is, opponents when a killing is demanded by the code. What the truth may be is not progressive enough for the presupon this point we do not pretend to ent generation. know. Let us proceed with the re-

The Texan jury who tried the protector of the home for his double murder did its full duty under the unwritten law. It acquitted him for shooting the unarmed father of the and no doubt it will acquit him for shooting the eloper

roads or immigrants." Heroic Texans! How does it happen that people in other parts of the country manage to protect their families without quite o much slaughter? Is there something uncommonly in need of protection in the Texan home or has the Texan husband a little more of the ol and a good deal more of the bully n his makeup than we find elsewhere?

DEFENDING THE COLUMBUS SPEECH. The New York Globe undertakes a herculean task when it sets out to dispel the fog that surrounds its imme diate contemporaries over the Roo velt scheme for recall of judicial decisions. The Globe points out lucidly that the Columbus speech did not mean what the alarmed Eastern fournals thought it meant, nor even what Colonel Roosevelt, in using the unfortunate phrase "recall of judicial decisions" said it meant. Says the

By this time nearly everybody under stands that Colonel Roosevelt's plan has nothing to do with ordinary suits betweet individuals in any court, and that it has nothing to do with any kind of case in the United States Supreme Court. His plan is severely limited. He proposes to deal only with a special class of cases in state courts with a special class of cases in state courts.

All Colonel Roosevelt proposed was o permit the people to pass on any constitutional question involving the resues rights of the people as a whole de-re to cided by a state court. They do it No now, though the machinery for the ex-wise vessels from tolls is a violation of question under the present system is pression of their will, in the declara- the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. They asever settled, or ever will be settled, tion of a public policy, is more or less sert that we cannot refuse to submit cumbersome in most states; but in Oregon, through the initiative, it is

But the Globe's defense of Colonel Roosevelt's moderation would be more law and thus frankly confess ourselves grow longer, convincing if the Colonel himself in the wrong quoting Secretary Stimquestions is the ideal which all good would stay put on his own proposal. questions is the ideal which all great that the Progressive National platform, citizens desire; an Oregon system that The Progressive National platform, may be made the instrument for the largely the handiwork of the Colonel support of organized law-fixers and himself, declares not only for the initiative and referendum, but for the recall, and it makes no exemption judges. At Chicago the other day Colonel Roosevelt approved Senator referendum in Oregon have been over- Bristow's scheme for a National initiative and referendum.

The Columbus speech is a model of conservatism and a monument of recompared with Colonel conserved and the Oregon system is Roosevelt's present position on the re-. call.

WHITELAW REID.

The death of Ambassador Whitelay Reld deprives the country of a dis tinguished citizen and an able public servant. His career was one of achievement through capacity and Like many other Americans merit. who have made their mark in the world, he began life poor. Fortune favored him exceptionally in giving him a rich wife, but he was content to enjoy wealth in idleness He had been Minister to France and for the last seven years, Ambassado to England, and in both positions he represented the country with dignity and a competent mastery of his

duties. He was born at Xenia, Ohio, in 1837 and graduated at the age of nineteen from Miama University. He then immediately went into newspaper work, beginning by editing a paper in his native town. He entered the Civil War as volunteer alde on the staff f Major-General Morris and served during the war as correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette. It indicates something of his activities at this time that he was present at both Shiloh and Gettysburg.

After the war he tried his hand a various business ventures and finally joined the staff of the New York Tribune, the newspaper which Horace Greeley had built up with brilliant success. Reid took a hand in nomiating Greeley for the Presidency, as readers will remember from Colone Watterson's interesting story published not long ago. In 1872 he succeeded Greeley as editor of The Tribune and ecame its principal owner. It was predicted by some that the great its prestige when the hand of its fanous editor was withdrawn, but nothing of the kind happened. The Tricontinued to flourish under Whitelaw Reid and has remained a

power in American politics After his marriage Reld began to devote his time to the public service and filled many positions with honor to himself and credit to the Nation. As a literary man and a diplomat he won a high place in the opinion of the He was a fine type of the world. American citizen, cultivated, otic and successful in all that he undertook.

SENATOR CULLOM.

The radical of one generation is the onservative of the next. This oftrepeated saying comes naturally to mind when one reads Senator Cullom's ish shipping is based on the assumpnovement for Federal regulation of railroads. He tells with Indignation assumption is unwarranted. Profes-of their supercilious disregard of law sor Johnson estimates that in a decade and of the rights of the public. He come foes at some future time and, of course, the only way to preserve its for the passage of the first interstate Senators, nounced the bill as unconstitutional toll is too low and will impose an un forced it through by sheer persistence and he supported every m strengthen it. When the Hepburn bill cost of the canal. was in committee, he was ill in Florida, but he telegraphed to Washington a request to have his vote in com-mittee recorded in favor of the bill, and he supported the Mann-Elkins act

of 1910. But this man, who will have rounded out thirty years of continuous doing what Great Britain concedes our service as Senator next March, is now right to do-paying a subsidy out of regarded as a conservative, even as a our treasury equal to the tolls on reactionary. His expressions of deep those ships. But we are not comto direct election of Senators, of dis-like at the manner in which Senators tolls high enough to yield a profit, as ber prove him out of touch with pres. ent-day opinion. In anger at his opposition to the expulsion of Lorimer. In short, the annual expense of the illinois has thrown him into the discanal is no measure of the toll rate. Illinois has thrown him into the discard, forgetting his valuable services in molding and fighting for much of falls to the ground. the progressive legislation of the last who once led the progressive forces

Commission, the creation of which is our duty to assert and maintain was largely due to him. Rallroad offials have abandoned their domineering attitude. They submit to the that such a course would be folly, but their system ecounting. to the revision propria persona. The verdict of pub- their rates and classifications, they

ing, even if they never get any rail-, They realize that they are the servants, not the masters, of the people and they strive to please.

The people so fully recognize that the railroad question has been settled in their favor that they turn their attention to other issues. Other detalls of the relation of the public to but no man doubts that, when the people call for action, this business will receive attention and the attitude of the railroads will be very different rom that which they assumed in 1887, when the first interstate commerce law was passed. They wi discuss the proposed laws from the standpoint of the public interest and, if they should be overruled, they will

submit with a good grace.

Though we believe Culiom erred in standing by his colleague, Lorimer, and though we are not disposed to condone his error, we cannot forget that he was among the first of the progressives at a time when progres-sive ideas had their beginnings and when nerve, patriotism and devotion were required of the man who voiced those ideas in the Senate and forced their translation into law.

THE PANAMA CANAL CONTROVERSY. ern newspapers accept the British protest against the Panama Canal toli

upholds Sir Edward Grey's contention pay proper attention to their real duvoyage herself and pay the canal tolls. It also takes Sir Edward's view that been the "Library of Congress." Herexemption of our coastwise ships foreign ships for the upkeep of the the United States." Names do not canal than they would bear if all ships matter much but such a change might

own protest against Canadian discrimnation in Welland Canal tolls, a protest to which Canada yielded. tions" in the treaty mean all other na- tions we have. tions than the United States. It calls attention to Sir Edward Grey's admis don that we are free to grant subsidies equal in amount to the tolls, but Stimson's statement that isthmian voluntarily remove the cause of British protest, arbitration will be inevita- ing the same thing. ble. It expresses a hope that Stim-son's change of front indicates that

Taft has reconsidered his position.

Much the same opinion is expresse by the New York Sun, Herald, Globe, World, Journal of Commerce, Brooklyn Eagle, Baltimore Sun, Springfield Republican, Chicago Inter-Ocean and Record-Herald and Indianapolls News. If foreign vessels were free to engage in American coastwise traffic, there would be no question that exemption of our coastwise vessels from canal tolls would be a violation of our pledge to give equal treatment. But they are excluded by a law our right newspaper would lose a good deal of sels allowed also to engage in commerce with foreign ports or to handle butter. foreign cargoes by transhipment at American ports, they would compete with foreign ships and the British pro-test would be valid. But they cannot traffic at foreign ports without becoming subject to canal tolls and if they tranship cargo from foreign ships at an American port for carriage to another American port, they v our law and become subject to seizure and forfeiture. Therefore, exemption of our coastwise vessels from tolls gives them no advantage in competi-tion, for they can have no competitors in that trade and they can only engage in foreign trade at the sacrifice of toll exemption or on pain of

forfeiture. Sir Edward Grey's argument that exemption of our coastwise ves Fifty Years of Public Service." He tion that the tolls will be fixed at such ecalls the insolent contempt with a figure that they will pay cost of which railroad officials treated his operation and maintenance and in terest on the cost of the canal. the canal would pay its way if we collected tolls on our coastwise ships In the meantime it will be operated at commerce law and how the railroad a loss, which we must pay. Hence on one after another, de- | Sir Edward Grey's theory the initial and bad in every respect. But he fair burden on the United States, not on American ships. It is based or what the traffic will bear, not on the

But we are not bound to collect only enough to pay expenses and interest. We might collect just enough to mee those charges or we might, chose, collect as much less than that sum as the tolls on coastwise ships would amount to. We should then be pelled to keep the canal revenue down is nothing in the treaty to forbid ou doing so, provided the tolls are equal hence Sir Edward Grey's argument

The policy of ship subsidies doe posed to subsidies, but has always maintained that good policy dictated reserving our coastwise trade for our That his work has borne good fruit own ships. When a foreign nation can be perceived by glancing over the report of the Interstate Commerce wise trade in any way we choose, it

of that folly. To concede that we have no right lic opinion in that locality upon the obey orders to refund overcharges, to exempt our coastwise vessels from affair is that "Texans will protect they generally recognize that they toils would be to abandon the right their families by indiscriminate shoot- must toe the mark set by the law. to carry out one of the main purposes

nent of the cheapest means of transi etween our two coasts. What pos ible concern can Great Britain have with the means we adopt for promot ing water competition with our trans-continental railroads? It is our own

A MARVELOUS FOWL.

Roseburg has a hen whose achieve nents promise to make the city and its inhabitants famous forever. emarkable fowl has surpassed all recorded performances in the egg line According to a report which we have no plausible reason to doubt she laid 266 eggs in less than 11 months. The exact period in which she rose to immortality was ten months and 19 days This amounted to slightly less that an egg a day. The vaunted Corvallis hen, which we were betrayed into admiring the other day, now clucks with shame and a sense of the wrong she has done the public by putting orth groundless claims to glory.

This conscienceless fowl laid only a paltry 257 eggs in about the same time required by the Roseburg marvel to produce her 266. The discrepancy between the two achievements lead one to inquire whether coilege eduthe line of eggs, or does it, all things considered, cause that noble function to wither?

treaty, and that the exemption of our beside her Roseburg sister. No doubt foreign and foreign-going American heart and see to it next year that the ships are subject is discrimination. It college hens, as well as the students,

books at Washington. Hitherto it has bert Putnam, the head of the instituwould throw a heavier burden on tion, suggests calling it the 'Library of as well be made. Under its rules the The Times quotes against us our great collection is available to every citizen, no matter where he lives. With It all over the country to students. couts the plea that the words "all na- is one of the most democratic institu-

The Smith College girls are trying their hands at co-operative house keeping this year. This is one of the gainst this course as well as against aristocratic Massachusetts institutions coll exemption it quotes Secretary and the fact that some of the students are willing to save money by working traffic is profitable even now, when the proves the strength of the democratic Panama Railroad charges \$4 a ton as impulse we hear so much about. They against the proposed canal toll of co-operate by cooking, washing dishe The Times says that, unless we and mopping. Perhaps we may some time see women outside of college do-

A company has been formed in St. Louis to supply households with heat as they are now supplied with light. thus doing away with wood and coal and the bother of handling them. The for the purity which the doctrine of project depends on manufacturing the kingdom inculcates? Mighty and Sooner or later a way will be found to transmit pure heat over wires or through some conducting traffic, substance as we do electricity and then oodbye to half the worry of the

The men who have cornered mil to pass which is not and cannot be beware of old smooth and invidious questioned. Were our coastwise ves- oleomargarine, which looks like butter, sells like butter and tastes like

> The Chinese Emperor is suffering from whooping cough. An operation for summary removal of the entire affected area will be favored by many of his late subjects.

The world's long-distance flight has

just been completed. But it is only

when they break their necks that avi ators attract headlines these swift-Skunk farms have not been a suc cess in this region, but the Mapleton man may succeed with mink. It is

the ploneer in these lines who is a John Hays Hammond would be grand ambassador at the Court of St James, but Mr. Taft shows his bigness in leaving appointment open to his

In sending mashers to the rockpile Judge Tazwell can add just one Improvement. Deputize male relatives to escort them, no questions to be asked on return.

Sir Thomas Lipton says husbands should help take care of the children. The ruminations of a bachelor on such

Appointment of George M. Corn wall as regent of the State Agricultural College is practical and of merit,

A state matrimonial agency is being agitated in Washington. Eventually a husband or wife may be obtained by The coal trust having been absolved, no doubt the price will move

up a few cents to cover the cost of Government reports indicate that each person ate 87 pounds of sugar during the year. How much vinegar?

The man who is to marry Helen Gould will be noted merely as Helen

Wilson at sea in a storm. What an hour of excruclating unensiness for Now that the Greek fleet has been

walloped, perhaps the Greek ego will subside a bit. Consumers having forced down the price of eggs, up goes the price of

Have you noticed how uncommon!

Per capita consumption cannot keep shead of graduation of deathsts, Eggs by mail. How unhappy may

of the canal. That was the develop- WHERE ARGUMENT MIGHT LEAD PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTOR IN LIFE Father Gregory Follows Up Line of It Should be Studied by Those Contem

> FORTLAND, Dec. 15 .- (To the Edier.)-In The Oregonian a communicachimera of the non-existence of Christ as a historical person. Those so-called higher critics try to tear down mostly so with all similar cases. ind know not how to build up. What have they ever proven? Has not Christianity furnished in all ages the lead-

whole and in part. The old writings prophesy the coming of God in human form. The scriptures of the old law coint out the very time when the hiswhat circumstances. The New Testa Almost without exception the Eastrn newspapers accept the British enable a hen to do her best? Is the protest against the Panama Canal toli discipline of the classics indispensa-law as well founded. They unite in ble to the most exalted triumphs in the divinity or historicity of Christ, declaring that exemption of coast-the line of eggs, or does it, all things he must not only declars null St. Paul's letters, but also every other evan-gelist's.

on to wither?

Do these higher critics not know that there were other inspired writers? Standard of true love. I did not be that there were other inspired writers? Standard of true love. I did not be that there were other inspired writers? Standard of true love. I did not be that there were other inspired writers? Standard of true love. I did not be the transported to the stimulating hermaneutics and exegesls, ignorant of the laws of logic, seem to borrow the greater than it had been for my false. sert that we cannot refuse to submit the question to arbitration without sullying the honor of the American Nation. Many say that we should repeal the exemption clause of the canal law and thus frankly confess ourselves in the wrong, quoting Secretary Stimson's recommendation to that effect.

The New York Times contends that the clause of the Hay-Pauncefote ball. Had she devoted her time to give equal treatment to all nations is the equivalent we gave Great Britain the equivalent we gave Great Britain the equivalent we gave Great Britain the questions belong the contends that their practice she might now the equivalent we gave Great Britain the equivalent we gave Great Britain the clause of the true work of the pinnacle of fame that the contends the contends that their practice she might now the equivalent we gave Great Britain the equivalent we gave Great Britain the contends that their practice she might now the equivalent was an actual fact, that others called back to an excessive interest in footback to an excessive interest of the laws of their arguments from fal for abrogating the Clayton-Bulwer be sitting on the pinnacle of fame treaty, and that the exemption of our beside her Roseburg sister. No doubt the faculty will take this lesson to what about those master minds of early Christianity, St. Augustine, Je rome, Ambrose, Chrysostom and hun dreds of others-intellectual giants upholds Sir Edward Grey's contention pay proper attention to their real duthat an English ship might find it cheaper to transfer a cargo at New York to a constwise vessel for carriage to San Francisco than to make the books at Washington Hitherton thas ter minds.

These self-styled higher critics arguhus: It is possible that at that time Christ, but wasn't the Son of God, and, therefore, we cannot know the his-

It is possible that some microbe has entered the brain of Mr. Rosenwald, citizen, no matter where he lives. With proper precautions the books are sent lently. Now, because this is quite possible over the country to students. It is one of the most democratic institusible in this age of psychological de-velopment and germ hysteria, that all he so-called higher critics have been infected with a certain germ tha breeds some sort of psychologic para nois for destroying the truth? It is that possible that Thucydides is spurious, and, most of all, is it possible—for they want possibilities—that Mr. Rosenwald and his kind are very spurious?

The fact that Christ is God and

historical person is an incontestable fact. The grand achievement in the reformation of the world, not with five and sword, but meekness and purity of doctrine, is a powerful argument. What but the doctrine of the Kingdom of God has strengthened the early Christians to march into the arena and give up their lives to the beasts? What power has emboldened the Christian maidens to sacrifice everything and even life

PORTLAND, Or. Dec. 16.—To the Editor.)—I read with interest Mr. Carey's article discussing the large difference in the price the consumer pays and the producer gets. His sons is old. I heard it first in the '70s, when the Ganga prophest to work.

that they do not want one.

J. M. OLBERMAN.

Mother's Place at Home

Mother's Place at Home.

GRANTS FASS, Or., Dec. 14.—(To the Editor.)—I have been a slient reader of The Oregonian for years, but of late am very much interested in the letters on editorial base.

I don't think God ever intended wives and mothers to work out, for by going out to work we have to neglect our homes and leave our children to roam the streets and fall prey to the coarse elements of society that will bridg us sorrow sooner or later. The children naturally drift from mother's influence and restraint if she is away from them day after day.

I am speaking from experience, I had a family of children and force of elroumstances compelled me to work out to provide a shelter and food for the little ones until they got old enough to earn a little to help mother. Now they are all grown and gone to themselves, but with God's grace I tried to do my dufy by my family. My heart has bled many times when I had to go out and leave the little ones crying for me.

Gud gave us our children, but many times the evil one robs us of the help we should have in bringing them up as we wish. If it is possible stay at home with the babies. MOTHER.

plating Matrimony, Says Writer. ALBANY, Or., Dec. 15 .- (To the Edi tor.)-All admit that practical common tion from Mr. Rosenwaid recently at-tempted to incoulate others with the plating marriage and to do so the psy chological feature should be studied more fully than the financial. Here is

I married a widow. She had dearly loved her former husband. Her affection for me as mine for her develop tianity furnished in all ages the leading scholars, inventors, critics? If ignorance is bliss, then men like flosenwald are blissful. Let him and others of his kind read the Catholic works both modern and ancient. The Catholic works lie church is a power and a most promise with a look indicating intellectual research. both modern and ancient. The Catholic church is a power and a most prominent factor in the field of science and
criticism, not wanton, lawless and unscientific.

If Mr. Rosenwald denies the historicity of Christ because the Pauline
epistles look spurious to him, let him
know that he is forced to deny the
canonicity of the Old Testament in
whole and in part. The old writings

was perfect, her face mandsome uni
with a look indicating intellectual
work, that captured my heart and held
my mind. After the first few months I
was fully convinced life without her
would be a blank. During our courtship she was propriety itself. Time
and this was a puzzle, as it plainly appeared that she desired that result as
much as I. Success at last crowned
my efforts, but our married bliss was
of shert duration. of short duration.

Something about the condition and affair at once clouded our lives, and

Something about the condition and affair at once clouded our lives, and her efforts to satisfy my thoughts, which she suspected only made matters worse. Confidence she knew was hacking and to establish this, being as heroic as she was honest (she had fold me no lies about her former life) she told me all about her life. At that time neither her love her her loyalty could be questioned, they were mine. A romance was hidden in her former life, and although she had violated the conand although she had violated the cor ventional law, looking at it from the standard of true love. I did not blame came empty. That it was more un bearable to her even than to me wa certain and in compliance with wish as much as my own desire I left and came out West that the distance separating us might help her to forge READER.

the RELIGIOUS QUESTION IN POLITICS From Economics by Speakers.

HILLSBORO, Or., Dec. 15 .- (To the Editor.)-Father O'Hara seems to have raised the question of What is Socialism? I will agree with him that the Catholics fathers keep as close if not closer to the laboring class and unfor-tunates ones than any of the leaders of tunates ones than any of the leaders of and its mechanics by the calculations the various religious bodies do. I am not a Catholic. I am a "near-Socialist."

I am sorry they are trying to make a of Alder and Second streets, Portland, rain sorry they are trying to make a religious question out of politics. One might look in the platform of the parties, or in the dictionary to find out what Socialism means. Also he might look in the Bible to see what Christianity is. But it has been the way of some reformers to tell other solutions as wall as the truth from things as well as the truth, fro Martin Luther, who denied being Hussite and claimed to be a Cathol long after he had separated from the church, down to the great Roosevelt, who claimed to be everything. who claimed to be everything.

I believe in the platform that Debs ran on, but there are different kinds of Socialism, as there is more than one variety of Republicanism. The poor, God-forsaken Socialist has enough principle even in California to put a distinguishing name on each of the two kinds when the ballots are cast. One is called Social Democratic and the other Social Labor.

cast. One is called Social Democratic and the characteristics everything and even life for the purity which the doctrine of the kingdom inculcates? Mighty and robust warriors lay down their arms rather than sacrifice to a myth and deny Christ. Then when some one spurious in every sense of the word comes and tells us no one knows what the doctrine of the kingdom means, the doctrine of the kingdom means, in the doctrine of the thought of penalty, or in fact penalty in the doctrine of the kingdom in the doctrine of the kingdom in the doctrine of the kingdom in the doctri

for.)—What the Socialist asserts is that environment is a predominant influence. The innate powers of the vast majority of the race were determined iong ago by the process of natural selection. It is the social environment today which is at fault. Given two persons with essentially the same inborn capacity, ist one of them be placed in the alums from early childhood and the other in a family of means and intelligence, and it takes no prophet to tell which will develop into the most useful human being nine cases out of

difference in the price the consumer pays and the piducer gets. His song is old. I heard it first in the '70s, when the Grange promised to work wonders for the people along the same lines. I believe there was one main, a Mr. Rockefeller, who conducted his business along those lines, viz., put the price of his products down, paid good wages to his employes and treated them well, and yet he received more abuse than any other man in the country. True, he made money, but he must have money to maintain such a business.

It is the people who buy that make the great difference between the cost and selling price of an article. If they would buy their goods in the same packages—polatoes, prunes, beans, etc. in which they left the producer, instead of in 5 and 19 cent lots, and many of them put up in dainty packages, and it here is no law to prevent them from buying direct, and if there is a system there is nothing to prevent them from forming an economic one except it be that they do not want one.

J. M. OLBERMAN. are unrelated? Further, will any thinking person deny that we are today for the first time in the world's history living in what Professor Patten, of the University of Pennsylvania, calla "an era of economic surplus," where there are actually snough of the necessities of life to sustain every person in comfort? That being the case, poverty, ignorance and suffering is in the vast majority of instances due to had social arrangements and not to inferior heredity.

It is rather to give heredity a chance

inferior heredity.

It is rather to give heredity a chance in modern society that Socialists very properly emphasize the great importance of environment. And by heredity they mean the potential capacity of the whole race, not merely that of a small part of it which happens to be bettered by inheritable privilege and buttressed by inheritable privilege at

Up to the Proposing Point.

Philadelphia Record. to get his courage up to the proposing point for two years is surprised when the girl accepts him in two seconds.

A Flunncial Moment. Yonkers (N. Y.) Statesman Crimsonbeak - Are you against Yeast-1 certainly um.

The Early Shopper By Dean Collins.

Roll on, thou flood of Christmas shoppers, roll; Safe in the haven of my happy home

'Il let sweet peace pervade my quiet And gentle thoughts play round with-Your fevered rush this week disturbs me naught— For all my Christmas presents have

Full early in the month I woke to life, And in the pawnshop hung my over-For long before the wild late shopper's

been bought.

I knew full well I was the Christman Now roll, thou flood of Christmas shoppers, roll: My task is done: I've paid my Christ-mus toll.

White still the crowds were thin, I made my dash,
Copping the cream from heliday dis-

Now is my booty safely in the cache, And without fear I view the Christ-mas day: While your mad tide about the counter flows,
And million feet tread upon million

toes As Ajax the hot thunderbolt defied, So do I scorn the crushing Christmas and all its heavy heels do I deride, For I was early on the shopping Job. Roll on thou roaring Christmas hurly-

I've fooled you-for I did my shopping Portland, December 18.

Haif a Century Ago

The Oregonian of December 17, 1862. Washington, Dec. 6.—Strenuous ef-forts are being made by partles from Western Virginia for the passage of the Senate bill by the House admitting Western Virginia into the Union.

St. Louis. Dec. 9.—A dispatch from attlefield near Fayetteville, Ark. battlefield near Fayetteville, Ark., says; General Herron's force en route to re-enforce General Blunt met the enemy yesterday at Prairie Grove and won a decisive victory over them.

The examination of the classes in the public schools commences this morning at 5 o'clock. The patrons and riends of the school are respectively

If you love your country encourage home production. Why will you send abroad for wretchedly spurious articles when you can have the good and true and beautiful of Oregon material and Oregon workmanship close at your doors? Why impoverish your country

DEATH PENALTY AS DETERRENT It "Rarbarism" Protects Innocent Let Us Have More of It, Says Writer.

PORTLAND, Dec. 18.—(To the Editor.)—To my mind the arguments against capital punishment contain more of the element of sentimentalism than of sound wisdom. look upon the death penalty as a design on the part of the law to wreak a bloodthirsty vengeance on some one misunderstand the object of the law providing the death penalty for the one who wantonly takes the life of the innocent. The true object sought in the death penalty has been stated so often, and is so clearly the only logical and effective manner of dealing with capital crime, that it seems unnecessure to repeat here that the death

make a function of the kingdom means, shall we suffer to be insulted? Over 300,000,000 of Christians know what they believe of the dectrine of the kingdom and follow its teachings. They believe that Christ is the Son of God born of the Virgin Mary some 1900 of the wing of the work of the secretly in the pay of some of the know that orthodox fathers have never yielded a single point in essential in the bear in mind that not only Christian in depole believe in a kingdom of people believe in a kingdom of the existence of such a place. Only to the modern heathen, who has, perhaps haps, charged the giory of the incorpolity rimes of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the circuit of the modern heathen, who has, perhaps word in the limings of corruptible man, are the doctrines of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential of the modern heathen, who has parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth. As a parting word, I admonish Mr. Rosential times of the kingdom a myth of the so-raifed advanced state of civilization affords us, let us have more of the relie of barbarism, and have it quickly, for the situation is becoming des-

According to statistics given in an editorial in the Kansas City Journal some time ago, crime has increased in the United States 700 per cent since the year 1885. If the said statistics are true, there must be some influencing cause for this appulling increase in crime. It certainly cannot be the severity of our laws dealing with criminals which prompts men to commit crime. If it is, let us wipe our laws dealing with criminals off our statutes and have the millennium at once.

W. H. WARD.

TRADES SCHOOL BLOCK FOR SITE

TRADES SCHOOL BLOCK FOR SITE Its Advantages as Auditorium Location Are Pointed Out.

PORTLAND, Dec. 18.—(To the Editor.)—Relative to the matter of selecting a suitable site for our auditorium, why would not the Atkinson School or School of Trades block be more suitable than the market square or any of the sites so much discussed? Its situation between Couch and Davis, Eleventh and Twelfth streets is most convenient to carlines. The Portland Railway, Light & Power Company cars on Washinston, Burnside and Flanders atreets are but from one to three blocks from it at present; the United Railway now passes by on Twelfth street, while the Oregon Emetric cars are within one block on Teath street, is might also point out that if the francisk is given for a carline on Seventh street the Woodlawn, Brondway; Vancouver and St. Johns or Broadway bridge cars would pass but three blocks away.

No other site mentioned has so many advantages in this respect a believe this location would fit in with the Greater Portland pian aiso, and no doubt the School Board would be reasonable in transferring the property for this purpose. If overflow meetings were necessary, or if more than one big affair was held on the same night or day, the Armory, just across line street, would no doubt, belo out, and, if additional property was required, the adjoining lots are not expensively built up and could be becured at a minimum cost. MISS SPECHT.

832 Gladstone avenue.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 15.—(To the Editor.).—Can you tell me where I might got the pamphiet. "On Diet," written by Dr. Emil Axel Gibsen, and other works of his? WILLIAM BROWN.

Write to Dr. Gibson at Beaumont.