

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, Jan. 11, 1913.

IBRIGATION NEEDS.

Several months ago John H. Lewis, State Engineer of Oregon, made the statement that he knew of five irrigation projects in Oregon that had been investigated and abandoned where more than one million acres of land could be reclaimed at a cost of \$25 to \$40 per acre.

These figures give but a partial idea of the importance of the problems the Oregon Irrigation Congress has met to discuss in Portland. It should be recalled, also, that this area lies in a semi-arid condition when for more than a decade we have had laws purporting to extend Government or state assistance, supervision or encouragement to reclamation projects.

California gave \$90,000 for its exhibit at the Lewis and Clark Exposition in 1905. The sum of \$250,000 for an Oregon display at San Francisco in 1915 is doing very well.

CRY OF THE STANDPATER.

There is no more reason for limiting the number of bills on the ballot than for limiting the number of bills to be introduced in the Legislature. One is just as much an abuse as the other and vice versa.

Thus saith a reactionary champion of the unamended and wide-open initiative and referendum. The Oregon system that was good enough for our fathers, a decade and more ago, is good enough for us. Let well enough alone. Don't touch the initiative ark of the covenant. Don't excite the sacred referendum ox. Hands off. Let us stand pat. So runs the argument.

The failure of the Government Reclamation Bureau to do more for Oregon has not been due to lack of feasible projects, but to diversion to other states of funds that should have been expended in Oregon. While the reclamation act, in principle, provides that the major portion of public land sale revenues should be expended within the borders of the state which produced them, the Secretary of the Interior was permitted to borrow from the funds of one state to reclaim lands in another state, with the proviso that the sums so diverted should be returned to the state of their origin with each ten-year period.

In Oregon the Carey act seems to have been more successful in tying up lands than in developing them. This act permits the segregation of Government lands upon application by the state after the state has entered into a contract with some private firm or corporation for the putting of water on lands. The promoter of the company makes its profit solely from the sale of water rights. In Oregon the settlers have not been charged for the lands.

The law, and its administration, in the past have been an invitation to the speculator and promoter. Lands have been withdrawn in behalf of individuals, firms, and corporations which have not had complete engineering data, adequate financial resources or comprehensive knowledge of the work they were undertaking.

representative Oldfield has introduced a Federal bill of the same purport in Congress. The Louisiana law forbids the sale of shares made wholly or in part of substitutes for leather unless the fact is plainly stamped on the soles, and it imposes a penalty for violation. The Oldfield bill extends the same provisions to shoes sold in interstate or foreign commerce or in the territories and islands. The bill is in the interest of honest dealing and its passage and enforcement would hurt only the dishonest. It would leave a man free to buy paper-soled shoes, but he would know that they were paper and would not pay for them the value of leather under the delusion that they were leather.

HOW MUCH FOR 1915 FAIR?

A Portland man in San Francisco writes to inform The Oregonian that the report has been industriously circulated there that this paper is opposed to an adequate appropriation for an Oregon exhibit at the 1915 exposition. Of course the San Francisco notion of an adequate appropriation by Oregon and the Oregon idea may not be in accord; yet The Oregonian desires to assure all whom it may concern that it wishes Oregon generously and even brilliantly represented at San Francisco in 1915. It has said as much heretofore; it repeats now that the Legislature should make a suitable Oregon exhibit for 1915.

The people of Oregon think \$500,000 too much, and The Oregonian is in harmony with that view. But whatever The Oregonian may think, it is clear from interviews and other sources that the Legislature will not give \$500,000. The general consensus is for \$200,000 to \$250,000. We think \$250,000 an adequate appropriation. We happen to know that the 1915 fair officials think so, too.

Let us remind our agitated San Francisco critics that the referendum Oregon makes a \$500,000 appropriation impossible. If a half-million dollar bill were to pass the Legislature, it would certainly be held up under the referendum and the effect would be the same as no appropriation. Why invite defeat of any exhibit by imprudent and extravagant legislation?

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CONSERVATION OF CHILD-LIFE.

There are two kinds of race suicide. One is the kind against which Colonel Roosevelt inveighs. The other is the kind which allows babies to be brought into the world only to die. War is being made against this latter kind in New York City by means of pure milk stations with attendant physicians and nurses. Its good results are seen in the annual report of the Board of Health, which shows that last year the death rate for babies decreased 6 per cent, while for the entire population the decrease was only 1 per cent.

That this decrease is due to the agencies mentioned may safely be inferred from the fact that most of it was in Manhattan, where preventive measures are most thorough, while in Brooklyn, where the work was extended beyond its original limits only last summer, there was only a slight decrease, and in the Bronx, which had only three milk stations, there was none.

The inference is plain that the high death rate among infants is preventable. Waste to the community each child that is a peculiar burden for it is a prospective useful, producing citizen, and each death of a child is an economic loss. It is useless to check the one kind of race suicide by increasing the birth rate unless we at the same time check the other kind by decreasing the death rate. In fact, it would be better to attempt to have a smaller number of children and by giving them better care bring them all to maturity than to give birth to a larger number, half of whom would die in infancy.

Proper care of children, which carries with it the constant cooperation in conservation of human resources, without which conservation of other resources is vain.

THE PROBLEM OF THE UNFIT.

Three eminent Indiana physicians have in course of preparation a remarkable bill for submission to the State Legislature. In the opinion of Dr. Harvey Adams Moore, who speaks for his colleagues on the subject of the unfit, his bill is the most important that has been introduced in the Indiana Legislature since the last December, the bill if it is adopted will bring to pass "a steady reduction of the social diseases toward the smallest possible minimum." It is not expected, naturally, that this will be done overnight. The plan of campaign, we are told, "involves many years of hard work and constant cooperation with the public." The phrase "social diseases," as used in this extraordinary bill, includes not only the maladies of vice, such as venereal troubles and alcoholism, but also poverty, criminality and, as we understand it, "general cussedness and imbecility." This bill has no more basis of fact than any of the other traditions of Jeffersonian simplicity. Whatever simplicity there was about Jefferson's inauguration was due to the conditions existing at the time, which were not propitious for gorgeous public ceremonies at the White House.

and other places and for tickets to grandstands and balls. The size of the harvest reaped by the citizens varies with the degree of public interest in the inauguration ceremony. When a President succeeds himself this interest is at its lowest ebb. When the incoming and outgoing President are both of the same party, it is somewhat greater. When, as is now about to happen, one party displaces another after being out of office for sixteen years, public interest is at its height. Adherents of the victorious party flock to the capital to witness the event which marks their triumph. The certainty that there will be unwonted crowds and that the pageant will be one of unusual brilliancy attracts other merchants and sightseers. Washington capitalizes the inauguration by surrounding the simple ceremony of taking the oath with a gorgeous display befitting the coronation of a King. All statements to the contrary notwithstanding, hotel rates are higher, the rent of buildings for private houses and apartment buildings is advanced enormously and the price of meals at restaurants goes up.

Were Wilson to make any effort to prevent Washington from reaping this harvest, he would render himself inimical to the people. It is the very opening of his administration. The population of Washington includes men and women from every state in the Union and is more or less familiar with the President's daily life and personality from having him in the capital. Therefore, had an opportunity of molding public opinion about him throughout the country. Wilson could not prevent his inauguration from becoming a pageant if he would, and, for the reasons stated, he would not if he could. He would not be so foolish as to attempt to deprive Washington of so valuable an asset.

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White House to the Capitol, for the simple reason that he was not occupying the White House at the time, but was living at Conrad's boarding-house, which still stands on New Jersey avenue, near the Capitol. He did ride, but walked between Samuel Dexter, of Massachusetts, Secretary of the Treasury, and Benjamin Stoddert, of Maryland, Secretary of the Navy. He was escorted by a battalion of infantry and a salute of honor was fired by a battery at Alexandria.

The bill's sponsors probably originated in the fact that Jefferson was fond of riding and that the streets of Washington were so bad that it was more convenient for him, after he became President, to ride horseback than in a carriage, though he sometimes used the latter. On his rides about the city he would frequently demand that the Capitol leave his horse in the shed used by Congressmen for that purpose and enter the building to consult his friends. This custom probably accounts for the legend.

The Government will have very little to say about the character of the ceremony at the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson. Its only part in the affair is to provide the man for the office and the official to administer the oath, to build a stand on the east front of the Capitol, to provide a few regiments of troops to march in the parade and to grant certain private citizens authority to use public property and public places. The pomp and ceremony are all furnished by these private citizens—a committee of Washington business men which raises a guaranty fund, arranges for the parade, ball and fireworks, builds grandstands and has general charge of the event.

This provision is admirable. There is no sane reason why contagious venereal diseases should be allowed to spread under the veil of secrecy and of confidential confidence any more than cholera. In the next place, the health officer must inspect all dwellings—houses, public buildings and places where labor is performed once every three months to "examine the lighting, plumbing, drainage and ventilation, hot water supply and general cleanliness."

No doubt the cry of tyrannous meddling will be raised against this provision, but if the citizen and his children are valuable to the state, why should the state see to it that their health is taken care of? When the British authorities ordered their eighteenth century cleanliness in the cholera districts of India the mobs set up a howl of tyranny, but it was not very long before they made up their minds that the sway of the cholera bacillus was more terrible than that of the health officer. The acceptance of the part of the bill will be in direct proportion to the common sense of Indiana's citizens, which, we understand, is rather extensive. So far so good. Up to this point the bill must win the encomiums of all who love their kind. But now comes the part of it where obstinate doubts intrude. It is the sections referring to the "sterilization of the unfit." The local health officers are required to report to the county board all cases of "mental and physical deficiency" which endanger the health of offspring. This includes idiots, imbeciles, epileptics, persons permanently of unsound mind, and those suffering from incurable diseases transmissible to their children. Such cases are passed on to the State Board of Health, who submit them to examination "by two physicians in good standing." If these examiners agree that "such person is incapable of procreating sound offspring," he may be shut up in a hospital and kept there indefinitely under trained nurses. Finally, if "two skilled surgeons of recognized ability" deem it unwise for him to have offspring and if he is unable to provide for himself, he shall be sterilized.

In our judgment this is dangerous. Not that we object to "sterilization of the unfit." In many cases it is eminently proper, but it should not be done without the most elaborate precautions against wrong. The concurrent opinion of two physicians or more is not enough. There should be no secrecy about the proceedings, no chance for professional bigotry to come into play, no opportunity for malice or venality to wreak its terrible deeds. No person should ever be subjected to this operation without a trial in open court before a jury and even then he should have all the securities of any other jeopardized person, with an appeal to the higher courts and the benefit of the writ of habeas corpus. The medical profession deserves the gratitude of mankind for its invaluable services, but we are not yet quite ready to place the destinies of the world in its sole keeping.

The death of James R. Keene marks the passing of a type—the sporting man in Wall street, the man who plays a stock to rise as he plays a horse to win. He was a great judge of horse-flesh, as his many successes on the track and in the field have proved. He was a daring gambler in stocks, but practiced methods of manipulation which have now fallen into disrepute. Taking in New York from San Francisco fortune made in the famed stock market, he was one of the few Western millionaires who held their own and achieved any measure of success in Wall street. Usually such men are mercilessly trimmed. Keene, too, had suffered reverses of late and his fortune at his death had shrunk far below the proportion it attained in the days when he "bucked" the kings of the stock market and often won.

The policy of fusion and dicker is still pursued by the Progressives. They have eight votes in the lower house of the Connecticut Legislature, which held the balance of power. After lunch with Roosevelt the eight Bull Mooseers announced that they would support the election of a Democratic Speaker. As the Senate is Democratic by three to two, this deal would give the Democrats control of both houses. The policy of the Bull Moose appears to be to combine with the Democrats in every state where the Republicans are what they consider reactionary.

Chinese are called heathen, yet a cardinal virtue of the yellow man is to care for the aged parent, which many of a higher race neglect. Senator Mill Miller may have half the deck up his sleeve. As a warhorse, the sage of Lebanon cannot be tied at the post.

Every community that helps promote a cannery enterprise aids in developing a local market for diversified industry.

A girl wishes to be a page in the State Senate. Her sex obviously intends to leave no political job unexplored.

A Washington judge sentenced one of his friends to the penitentiary. Duty often makes harsh demands.

Professional wrestling is not to be allowed hereafter. What'll the surething men do for a living now?

The "man who walks like a bear," so to speak, must be taking an invisible grip on the Balkan trouble.

SCHOOL INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

Needs That Will Secure Desirable Results Are Discussed. PORTLAND, Jan. 10.—(To the Editor.)—The tendency in public education at the present time is to add practical instruction in industrial occupations and thereby, as it seems, meet the need of present changing conditions which demand more direct application and skill in the performance of certain kinds of work. This means that the theoretical side of education will be abandoned and the practical side itself, should the practice be carried very far, is that the persons instructed in this way are apt to become automatic and unskillful mechanics with little or no ability to become more of a force in work.

The goal of such training can be seen by reviewing the interests that are back of the movement. Industrial training is encouraged by some persons who believe in a servile class, by others who see the need of skilled tradesmen to make our industries more productive and yet by others who believe that certain individuals who have interest in industrial work and ability have a right to be given special training.

Our conservative school system, which does not lend itself to a rapid change of course, is being urged because its function is to teach how to know rather than how to do. Some industrial training has come into our system in the trade school and the manual training departments of other schools. More is coming with the establishment of the new agricultural schools. These changes are welcomed. They are of a character and kind that enliven interest in the art of living. At the same time they encourage constructive thinking.

Now that practical training is becoming more generally a part of the school system, its place must be governed so as to secure desirable results. So far as the duty of the public school system is concerned it must be to broaden the knowledge of pupils and to give them the elements of the elementary school and the high school is general education. Its work is intended to broaden the knowledge of pupils and to give them the elements of the elementary school and the high school is general education. Its work is intended to broaden the knowledge of pupils and to give them the elements of the elementary school and the high school is general education.

OREGON AT SAN FRANCISCO FAIR

Building Should Be Designed at Home and Leave Lasting Memory. PORTLAND, Jan. 10.—(To the Editor.)—Much has been said, and more will be said, in the coming months of the Oregon exhibit at the Panama-Pacific Exposition. This is all educational as a whole, but when analyzed by units the study of the exhibit should be balanced in practice and theory. The practical side of education should not be over emphasized. The school should be made to understand its relation to all its relations and should qualify them to understand its theoretical groundwork. In addition to training in mechanical and scientific work, there should be given an insight into his trade so that he can become familiar with all its parts, its underlying principles and its relation to other trades and to the whole group of trades of which they are parts. In agriculture the pupils should be taught the ways that govern climatic conditions, soil fertility, the propagation of plant life, the development of special types of products of the soil, and the principles of production and cultivation in theory and practice. Such a training is broadening, will develop thinking men and women and the public schools will meet a new and pressing need.

Wonderful Steps in Surgery.

PORTLAND, Jan. 9.—(To the Editor.)—We read that the latest experiment performed by Dr. Alexis Carrel of the Rockefeller Institute, New York, consisted of removing the internal organs of a cat and placing them in a solution such that they would keep working normally as in life. At first we are apt to regard this experiment merely as a very remarkable piece of surgery, without attaching any great importance to the act. After reflection, however, one may readily conceive how substitutions of organs from animals of the lower realm made upon persons suffering from internal troubles may in the future be considered as simple operations.

Food for Thought.

PORTLAND, Jan. 10.—(To the Editor.)—So many people read the letters in The Oregonian, and take such lively interest in the subjects and questions under discussion, that we thought we would publish two questions which have given the writer no end of food for thought and speculation. I have arranged to publish two questions which have given the writer no end of food for thought and speculation. I have arranged to publish two questions which have given the writer no end of food for thought and speculation.

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My Life in the Underworld

by JACK ROSE. The gambling partner of Lieutenant Becker presents the second in his series of eight remarkable revelations of New York crooks, in The Sunday Oregonian. A whole page is consumed in a description of the co-operation that exists between police and criminals.

DEBTS AND HIGH COST OF LIVING

Forefathers' Obligations Raise Present Prices With No Relief in Sight. GRASS VALLEY, Cal., Jan. 9.—(To the Editor.)—I notice The Oregonian often has communications regarding the high cost of living and there are often many so-called solutions published in the various magazines. I have looked in vain for the real reason of it to my way of thinking.

The future generations more than 100 years in advance are mortgaged the world over. The stocks and bonds with which they are held in bondage amount to more than the stupendous sum of \$500,000,000,000. The daily increase of indebtedness amounts to over \$1,000,000,000. We are today grubbing about paying the interest and principal of debts contracted 50 years ago. The protest against high cost of living is but a protest against the payment of principal and interest of bonds and stocks now maturing and due to the price of 50 years ago—indeed it is true but a protest nevertheless. The interest charges every corporation or factory now maturing and due to the price of the commodity it offers for sale together with a reserve to go in the sinking fund to meet the payment of the principal are the cause of it.

The whole fabric of civilization is a gigantic pyramid resting on the ability of the future generations to pay principal and interest of the monstrous sums we are daily saddling on them. They can carry just so much. Beyond that, when they get their eyes open to the awful load we have added them to handle, they will rebel and repudiate the whole thing which will be an overturning of the pyramid and a smashing of the whole thing.

Every dollar of interest we have to pay on obligations contracted by our forefathers is one dollar less we have to use for our own present needs and the obligations as time goes on are constantly growing greater and for which we derive no direct benefit in many cases. These interest charges will grow each year until the breaking point will lead to universal longer possible to meet the charges and civilization is bankrupt.

In order to make the schools efficient so that boys and girls trained therein can have an opportunity to benefit themselves by advancing to higher and better positions the courses in industrial training should be balanced in practice and theory. The practical side of education should not be over emphasized. The school should be made to understand its relation to all its relations and should qualify them to understand its theoretical groundwork. In addition to training in mechanical and scientific work, there should be given an insight into his trade so that he can become familiar with all its parts, its underlying principles and its relation to other trades and to the whole group of trades of which they are parts.

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The Man and the Bell

By Dean Collins. Oh, Muse, I know that I should be sad And think that the world is wholly mad. For the doorbell rings its own ill will. And ginks come round to present their bill. Or the morning mail at my desk comes through. With a bill instead of a billet doux; And any old place that I may be up and at it, his feet are after me. My life should be soiled to cynical hate, But instead of that I jubilate And laugh and roar till my sides are sore. As I think of the sorrowful guy next door.

Victim he of the people's voice; Popular Senatorial choice; Boomed to the Legislature because They thought he could tinker our great State's laws or constitution. A prosperous chap, and nevermore The Deputy Sheriff assails his door. A solid citizen; one who ranks 'em up with the millionaires. But still, though his credit's high and no fine, His is a bitter fate than mine; For 'twere of it all, his feet are after me. As I think of the sorrowful guy next door.

I never feel the bill chap's lash. Except in matters of ready cash; But he is followed from fair sunrise By bills of every sort and size. Dealing with railroads and navigation, Hatred, prices or taxation, Sunday baseball and hotel sheets, Dog tax, autos or sugar beets, Though he may wall and his reason fall The man with the bill is on his trail.

"Ha, ha!" I say, as I see his rate, I am not and I jubilate. I've naught more serious to expect Than a man who comes with a bill to collect. While he is stormed with a hundred bills, I am not and I jubilate. To father bills in the Senate halls, Though he knows full well, as he comes, them o'er. That, too, is sure to make someone sore.

As sure as it pleases some other chap, "Ha, ha!" I roar, and my hands I clap. 'Tis the doorbell peal like the knell of doom. And bill collectors invade my room. A happier lot is mine, I think. Than that of the sorrowful Senator.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of Jan. 12, 1863. Cairo, Dec. 29.—Fort Hudson has been attacked and completely demolished by our gunboats. Sixty guns were captured. At latest accounts Admiral Farragut had reached a point about 20 miles below Vicksburg. General Sherman's expedition from Memphis has probably arrived in that vicinity.

Cairo, Jan. 4.—General Rosecrans' army, numbering 40,000 men and 100 pieces of artillery, opened the battle on the rebels at Stone River on the morning of December 31. The battle has continued three days and will be renewed in the morning. The rebels drove back our right, commanded by McCoolle, and captured his ammunition train. The rebels then rushed upon the center, but were repulsed. They assailed the right and center again, but were repulsed. General Rosecrans then ordered the advance. The rebels were driven back again. Negley's division charged and captured a battery. General Rosecrans then ordered the advance. The rebels were driven back again. Negley's division charged and captured a battery.

Cairo, Jan. 7.—News from Vicksburg to the morning of January 1 says the rebels had concentrated all their forces against the line of the river and along the line of road to Vicksburg, amounting to 65,000 men. This overwhelming force attacked Sherman on December 29 and forced him to fall back to the first line.

Yesterday morning, about 2 o'clock, some villain cut the cables which attached the bark Samuel Merritt to Couch's wharf and she swung out in the stream. Immediately the steward detected that the ship was adrift in time to prevent any harm.

Non-Resident Executors.

PORTLAND, Jan. 9.—(To the Editor.)—Can a non-resident be appointed as executor of a resident's will in Oregon, and act as such executor? A REGULAR READER.

Not unless he comes to the State of Oregon and resides until the estate has been distributed.

Voting on First Papers.

MERRILL, Or., Jan. 8.—(To the Editor.)—Can I vote in the State of Oregon on my first papers?

Yes, if you have resided in the state six months and have had first papers for one year.

The American Girl in Opera.

The how and why of her is gone into by Theodora Bean in a delightful half-page study. Attractively illustrated.

Flynn, New Chief of the Secret Service.

He talks with an Oregonian correspondent on the sleuthing business, recounting many stirring experiences in running down bad men and gangs.

Will Mr. Wilson's Door Stay Open?—An article dealing with the freaks and cranks who haunt the White House seeking to take up the President's time.

Adventures of a War Correspondent—Gerald Brandon relates the fourth in his series of articles on campaigning with Madero in Mexico. The peace conference at Juarez and a tense battle are described.

Wanted, Brains for a King—Unless Alfonso can secure the services of a strong man to sustain the tottering throne, the Spanish monarchy may fall apart. An illustrated half page from an energetic Madrid correspondent.

America, the Hope of the Drama—Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree gives an interview regarding the future of the drama.

Painting Under the Ocean—A full page in colors of the genius who has developed something new in painting and who is making his strange idea pay.

New Color Comics—Two full pages of them, and they are among the funniest people in funny land. You should get acquainted with Doc Yak, Sherlock Holmes, Jr., Old Opie Dilldock and the rest of them.

Three Pages for Women—Departments on housekeeping, fashions and health. A new quarter-page embroidery design.

Many other features. Order today from your newsdealer.