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LET SWITZERLAND BE THE JUDGE.
The position of the United States on the exemption of coastwise vessels from canal tolls is well stated in a letter from Colonel Roosevelt to Rev. Lyman Abbott, editor of the Outlook.

Colonel Roosevelt contends that, as no foreign ships can engage in our coastwise traffic, there is no discrimination against them in exemption of our own coastwise vessels. He believes the only damage to be done might have added that that company can only suffer damage through decrease of its power to abuse the bonding privilege.

It is interesting to note that the Oregonian now has, through the Oregon system, a more Democratic United States Senator and a Democratic Governor.

That old Legislatures were corrupt and boss-ridden, and the old system venal and wrong, and a change was desirable and inevitable may be true enough. But it is idle and useless to minimize the consequences.

Light on the Government's forest policy is breaking in the East. One heretofore staunch defender of Pinchotism, the Saturday Evening Post, has discovered that the Government refuses to sell ripe timber in the reserves.

Another effect of this policy is that the Government's ripe timber is not cut, but stands and decays. The "tin" profit of the lumberman is not the profit of the Government.

While some intelligent observers may read the approximate condition in the West from the report of the Secretary of the Interior, it is probable that the East will not possess a true sense of reservation until the guise of conservation until the policy is changed.

Notable percentage of the people voted to adopt the Initiative with an idea that it was to be the vehicle for attempts to make Oregon an experimental field for new schemes in government.

Completion of the Cello canal will make the Columbia River navigable for 400 miles from such points as Snake River for 490 miles from its mouth.

The memorial sent to Congress by the Commercial and development bodies of the interior proves that that section is fully awake to the advantages of water transportation.

Government with a veto club.
The attention of Governor West is called to the constitution of the State of Oregon, article V, section 1, defining the veto power.

Discovery of a well-developed and well-located arson industry in New York and Chicago will not occasion much surprise. It is merely crime in another invidious trenchment and we are getting used to stumbling upon the reptile in strange stripes and unexpected places.

One result of the Balkan war is a proposal of the monks of Mount Athos to organize a republic with their patriarch as president. Mount Athos, which is 6250 feet high, is the tip of the easternmost of the three fingers into which the peninsula of Chalcidice, southeast of Salonica, divides, and was cut off from the mainland by a narrow channel one and one-half miles long.

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Raise than to lower the weight limit.
To broaden than to narrow the zones. If experience should show him that a flat rate is practicable, he will not fail to aid the adoption of any measure submitted to the people.

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ROAD SITUATION IS ANALYZED.
Mr. Albert Flads, Election Figures Guide to Plain Programme.
SALEM, Or., Jan. 22.—(To the Editor.)—During the last two years there have been no roads built in this state.

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PLEADINGS AND COURT PROCEDURES.
Prevention of Litigation More Important Than Technical Reforms.
PORTLAND, Jan. 22.—(To the Editor.)—Would it not be well to devote more time and thought to the prevention and discouragement of litigation?

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Half a Century Ago.
From The Oregonian of January 31, 1862.
Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 31.—The Yankees have advanced their lines seven miles this side of Murfreesboro. They have been guilty of the most outrageous enormities, stealing private property, robbing peaceable citizens and running off negroes.

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Suppression of Soap-Box Oratory.
PORTLAND, Jan. 21.—(To the Editor.)—The suggestion of the G. A. R. to suppress street speaking is a good one. This thought must have suggested itself to many persons who have from time to time heard the treasonable and vilely blasphemous utterances of some of our citizens.

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WHEN MAN IS PERFECT
That is the subject of one of a number of absorbing special features that will appear in The Sunday Oregonian.

25,000 Crooks—That is quite a lot of them for one small district, but Jack Rose reveals how they live and thrive in crime in one section of wicked old New York.

Why Do So Many Babies Die?
The question is one the United States Government has set out to answer. An important page study of the subject of infants and infant mortality.

Mrs. Sage's Bird Haven—An illustrated account of the great hunting district a charitable and tender-hearted old lady has wrested from the grasp of the hunters and converted into rendezvous for game birds.

Bulgaria's Chance—Although the fact is not generally known, that chance was provided by an American newspaper reporter. An illustrated page.

Billy Hanford—The arduous exploit of a first-class fighting man of the United States Navy.

Gibson Pictures—A number of the pictures that made Gibson famous as a pen and ink illustrator.

Three Pages for Women, Four Pages of new color comics and many other features.

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