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newspapers. Many attribute its support by Republicans to desire to ex clude Roosevelt from the White House, others to the same motive as against Wilson, and say that it should be amended so as not to apply to either Roosevelt, Wilson or Taft. Some say it bespeaks distrust of the people and ridicule fear of Caesarism. Unquali-fied approval is the exception.

Among those which indorse the amendment is the New York Tribune.

which says:

The campaign of 1912 certainly gave all the point needed to the argument that a President can serve the country more satisfactorily if custom does not require him to be a candidate for renmination.

The lengthening of a Fresident's term to six years would give him a better opportunity to develop his policles and would protect him from the importunities of those who now offer their aid toward renominating him. He would be far more independent of Senators. Representatives and party loaders who take advantage of his candidacy to serve their own purposes. He could veto bills without any fear of altending personal support. He could be Freedent in all that the term implies from the day he entered the White House to the day he left it, it is not necessary to turn again and again to a few candidates.

Admitting that there are in the ab-

Admitting that there are in the ab stract good arguments for a single, six-year term, the New York Evening Post accuses Senators of having "their eyes fixed rather upon political mo-tives." or "think of individuals." It predicts that in the House and in State Legislatures "immediate concern will about not the theoretical merits, but the immediate consequences of the proposed change." It pronounces the amendment in its present form "vir-tually ex post facto legislation," aimed directly at Roosevelt and having "the air of sharp practice." The Post sugair of sharp practice." The Post suggests that this be avoided by making the exclusion from a second term ap only to persons who "after the adoption of this amendment shall have The Post holds that, held the office." if ratified before 1916, the amendment would automatically extend Wilson't term to 1919, although the people had it in mind to elect him for only four years. On the other hand, it says, Wilson was entitled, "under our politi-cal practice and under the law, to eight years in the Presidency, provided succeeded in the first four." It predicts that the amendment in its present form will have small chance of ratification and that people wish to make the change in such a way as "not to seem to be squinting

at two men." Advocacy of a single term is attributed by the New York Globe to fear of the people. That journal maintains "the great body of opinion is strongly in favor of some form of re-eligibility, yet makes this contra-

It is shown that a President, no matter

The Globe concedes that, if there is be lengthened, but opposes permanent ineligibility, contending that an ex-President may be the very man anted. It suspects that some of those responsible for the form of the resolution desired to diminish its chances of ratification.

Rooseveltian New York Mail storms against the amendment as an attempt to "limit the power of the American people, a Congressional expedient to weaken the power of the people and to consolidate that of the

What ever be the popular feeling" on the subject, says the New York Sun the proposed change "should be made on the merits and without any reference to individual ambitions or careers to be affected by it." It says

should it be determined on to beyond the prejudices, accidents of the moment and the immed

The Brooklyn Eagle expresses a that the House will reject the amendment and quotes against It Hamilton's plea for re-eligibility, that a man whom "the ruling passion of the noblest minds"-love of fameprompts to great undertakings would be deterred from seeking the Presicy "when he foresaw that he must quit the scene before he could accom-plish the work." The Eagle says this argument has never been logically met, that "the weakness of our government is lack of continuity, the breaking off from one term to another"; and that "if the American people lack the civic virtue to get good government under present plan, no change of chanical system will make good the

deficienc Fear of Roosevelt is ascribed to the supporters of the amendment by the Indianapolis Star, especially to undesirable citizens, high and low. that he denounced for their offenses It proagainst the common weal." nounces the amendment childish and cites against it the practice of Great in utilizing the Nation's strongest men by alternating in power men as Disraeli and Gladst

In contrast to the Star, the Indianapolis News assumes that the amendment was made to apply alike to Roosevelt, Taft and Wilson "in order to free the Senate from the suspicion of being moved by feelings of personal the amendment right, saying:

There ought to be a constitutional in the tenure of this very powerful of the think too, that the country will kely to get better service from golded against the tempuation to seek

The Chicago Record-Herald earnestly hopes the House will adopt a resolution for a single, six-year-term, but says doubt exists whether the Works resolution would automatically extend Wilson's term and that the wording should be changed in the House in the interest of certainty and clearness.

Opposition of party Progressives to the amendment is taken by the Chi-dependence of the amendment is taken by the Chi-dependence of the government one day and evolve and sion that "without Roosevelt the Pro. into smoke the next, yet the serious-gressive party would speedily fall to ness of this latest crisis is not to be pieces." In reply to the argument minimized. Heretofore the national that the Nation could not get rid of a capital has been free of disorder. That bad President in less than six years, alone enabled President Madero to the Inter-Ocean says: "We have have keep up his programme of procrastinnever elected a President who could ation and prevarication. It was the rightly be called bad in any sense." It urges Republican Legislatures to conhisc claims that revolution and chaos sider the real motive of the Progres- in Mexico would soon end. sives in opposing the amendment.

Conceding that the Taft-Roosevelt Dostage, double rais.

Conceding that the Tart-Roosevelt in revoit, with the gutters running red in the capital itself, how can Madero single term principle, the Springfield longer maintain the bold front that cago, Seger building.

San Francisco Office-R. J. Bidwell Co.

Republican says a third term is easier appears to have been his one asset for A2 Market street.

To Republican a single term to de-many months past? He must have to defeat than a single term to defend, but continues:

PORTLAND, MONDAY, FEB. 16, 1915.

OPINIONS ON THE SINGLE TERM.

The single, six-year term amendment to the constitution encounters much a criticism from the Eastern newspapers. Many attribute its sup-

The Republican thinks it were better to have Taft pass on the amendment than Wilson and anticipates that Underwood's ambitions Clark and will prompt them to ald its passage through the House, but holds that, if it should not be ratified. Wilson's right state. If the present trouble leads to business letters, and so on through all to be a candidate for a second term would be unassaliable, though he should urge his supporters in the House to favor it.

The Boston Transcript finds in the Senate's action "the influence of that hysteria which sees 'Caesarism' in every bush along the Nation's high-way," but says:

way," but says:

As a dam against Caesarism the amendment would be made of paper. The real, sufficient protection against Caesarism, as Senator Lodge well said, "resis in the character of the American people."

It is an essential condition of law-making in response to popular demand that the President and Congress should be in harmony. That harmony is with difficulty reached even now. How much greater would be the difficulty if instead of President and Congress being at odds for two years, the Congress being at odds for two years, the period of their difference was extended to four or even six years?

OVERLOADING.

The Oregonian publishes herewith the comments of a friend in Eugene, who apparently has listened earnestly to the false logic of a few professed friends of direct legislation who seem determined to run it into the ground It is their favorite reply to every protest: "But see how the members over-load the Legislature—" as if one abuse excuses another. Our correspondent

Says:

Eugens, Or., Feb. 7.—(To the Editor.)—
The Oregonian has reason to object to the overloading of the ballot with lawmaking propositions. Still there is the alternative of the Legislature with 925 bills, as reported in The Oregonian, yesterday—9251
The voters have simple time in which to inform themselves, then the propositions are not changed by amendment as the father of a bill may not know his child on finality.

J. R. C.

Yet the Legislature, with 925 bills, is not an alternative either of a long or short initiative ballot; nor does number of measures introduced at Salem seem to affect in any way the number of measures submitted to the people. In 1912 the ballot carried a greater number of bills and amendments than ever before. In 1913 the Legislators break the record of bills

submitted for consideration.

Overloading of the ballot is an evil, and overloading of the House and Senate calendars is a grievous mistake. But neither one excuses the other. Both ought to be corrected.

PASS THE COMPENSATION BILL.

The Legislature, after observation of the defeat in the past of road laws, ought to be thoroughly aware that divided opinion as to details among those committed to a certain movement is almost, if not quite, as disstricting the President to one term has
en strikingly exemplified. principle involved. Just as the peobe no re-eligibility, the term should ple demand the enactment of work able road legislation, they desire the adoption of an adequate workmen' compensation law. The two issues are characteristic in the way they de-The two issues velop controversy over methods and details. The chief danger that confronts both is exaggeration of the

importance of minor particulars.

While it cannot be said with positive assurance that the compensation bill that has passed the House is not susceptible of improvement, the bill ought not to be sacrificed in the Senate because of controversial opinion over non-vital features. As it stands the bill embodies the virtues of fairness to employer and employed; speedy compensation of the injured; preservation of safety in employ ment: reduction in volume of court procedure, and average justice to all workmen in hazardous employment

or their dependents. Mr. Day's Senate bill has its chief difference in the more ambitious scope of the measure. It is compulsory in form while the House bill is elective. and would therefore embrace ployers and employes instead of a proortion that accepted the principle ompensation. So far as success of administration may be involved we befinal enactment, would not reveal maquestion as to whether the state ready to accept a law so extensive in

its application. The probability of a

referendum must be considered. The elective bill is a long, long step toward relief from unequal justice, ambulance chasing, overloading of court dockets and drains by other ceners of Oregon money for casualty in-While opposed by one ele surance. ment in labor's ranks, it has the sup port of probably seventy-five per cent of the organized workmen. Its elec-tive principle is a complete answer to those who oppose it solely on the theory that the present liability law is good enough, for the employe may he chooses, not come under the operation of the compensation law. but, if injured, seek recourse in the courts with all the rights now given

him under the liability law preserved It is without doubt an anomaly to mact a law on the theory that it is for the general welfare and then permit any individual to say whether o case the anomaly is a strong shield against successful attack by the mis-

guided and prejudiced. The Oregonian is not urging that no effort be made to improve the elective bill by amendment, but it does believe that it should not be changed beyon recognition, or supply material

The Senate has, we believe, correctly in- grinding the compromise hopper. Practerpreted public opinion.

While we have grown quite used to

With at least part of his own army in revolt, with the gutters running red realized how serious had become Mex-Yet he has repeatedly assured the world in general, and the

ening out the tangle will fall upon the life. United States. If the Mexican people, however, are moderate and pracice restraint during the period of supreme trial of their government, an international crisis may be avoided. Leastwise it would seem that a day either of readjustment or of reckon-ing with civilization is close at hand

LETTING THE FORESTS ROT.

The Forest Service stands convicted its own confession of being false to the policy of conservation it was created to maintain. Instead of reaplows the harvest to rot. Instead of protected from its own gullibility. to protect the people against the exactions of private timber land owners it sells a smaller fraction at a price set practically by private owners. Instead of becoming a source of revenue, it is doing business at a loss.

Forester Graves estimates that 348. 000,000,000 of the 597,478,000,000 feet of timber in the National forests is mature and over-mature, and that the annual growth is 6,150,000,000 yet last year he sold less than 800,000,000 feet. That is less than oneseventh of the annual growth and does begin to touch the already ripe and over-ripe timber.

As to the principle upon which sales are made, Mr. Graves says:

The stumpage appraisal is based upon close estimate of the cost of manufacture and the market price of the product t permits a fair operating profit to the purhaser on his actual investment, but no nore. It is, as nearly as the experts of the on his actual investment, but no it is, as nearly as the experts of the can determine, the full market value timber where it stands. "The full market value of the tim

ber where it stands" must be the value fixed in the market of the great tim ber syndicates or it would be sold more rapidly. Government timber is certainly worth less than that in private hands, for it is more remote from transportation, and cutting is surrounded by restrictions which private owners do not impose. The Government should fix a price low enough to offset these disadvantages in the eyes of the logger and to offer strong inducements for extension of transpor tation into the National forests. should do more-it should make the price low enough to break down the monopoly price set by the great syndicates, to induce the erection of saw-mills in the National forests indepen-

dent of the lumber trust and to give the people the benefit of cheap lum-Were this policy pursued, not only the annual increase would be har-vested, but a large proportion of the mature timber as well: the forests would become a source of revenue and the timber barons would be brought The growth of the young to terms. trees, which are now forever shadowed by the giants towering above them would also be facilitated.

The policy of the Forest Service is not one of conservation; it is a policy of reservation. It does not so use the forests that they shall be preserved; practically forbids their use, and allows them to decay. It is the policy of the miser, who hides his gold and counts it at midnight, gloating over its glitter. It is not the policy of the business man, who puts his gold to use that it may increase. It is to be oped that President-elect Wilson will have clearly in mind, in selecting the men who shall administer the National domain, these words from the platform on which he was elected:

We believe in the conservation and the development for the use of all the people of the natural resources of the country.

PERFE SHIPS AND SUBSTDIES.

Disappointment is expressed in some quarters, pleased surprise others that the admission of foreignbuilt ships to American register has not been followed by extensive American purchases of foreign ships; by depression in American shipyards. The Government has received inquiries as to the manner of transferring for eign ships to American register, but no application for transfer made. The expected depression in shipbullding has not come, for prospective increase in coastwise trans-isthmian traffic to follow com pletion of the Panama Canal aused a boom which keeps all the yards busy.

The canal law, however, has been in operation only six months and ocean-carrying trade is too new to the great majority of American capitalists for us to pass judgment safely on so brief an experience. Men who contemplate engaging in foreign commerce of ships. They must also compare cost of operation under American law with that under foreign law. They must seek out routes, learn what rates of freight and what volume of traffic are n prospect and must make connec have barely had time to make the nec ssary preliminary study of their proposed enterprise and they wisely go

lowly in embarking on a new venture. The cost of operating ships should not alarm American investors. Wi While American citizens, whose scale of wages ranges higher than that oreign officers, sailors can be hired

ence in cost should therefore not b prohibitive.

The shipbuilders have apparently abandoned hope of subsidy and have settled down to business. They are settled down to business. already discovering that shipb ing naturally stimulated by the build ing of the canal will prove fa greater and more lasting boon to them than any subsidies Congress might be induced to dole out to them. With free material they are relieved from any burden the tariff might impose and the time may come when they will glory in their independence of artificial aid and will scorn the very mention of subsidy.

BOARDS FOR EVERYTHING

volve the safety, health or morals of Regulation by the community. state is asked by some of these strictly private occupations. The music teachers want it, and so do the accountants, and the electrical-workers The barbers already have it.

It is no doubt annoying, and cer tainly expensive, to discover that one's clectric wiring has been placed in his house in an ineffective manner. But United States in particular, that he house in an ineffective manner. But had the situation well in hand and it is also annoying and expensive to that it had been misrepresented and magnified by selfish detractors who wanted his government overthrown.

Events in Mexico during the next his window-washer did not know how greatest interest, for that ill-starred republic appears to be in grave and immediate danger. With Madero's administration tottering there is no strong hand to take his piace at the provide a good fit; that his stenogheil of the wildly-careening ship of state. If the present trouble leads to complete chaos, the burden of straight.

It is also annoying and expensive to benefit to Clarke County that it should be expected to meet one-fourth the water act of construction? This bridge will be expected to meet one-fourth the capture of two milling that it should be expected to meet one-fourth the capture of two milling that it should be expected to meet one-fourth the capture of two milling that one's bridge will be expected to meet one-fourth the capture of two milling that it should be expected to meet one-fourth the capture of two milling to constitute of two meet one-fourth the capture of two milling to constitute of the places of two much advantage to Clarke County as it will to Portland, Seattle, the streetcars, and the automobile to the streetcars and the automobile to the streetcars and the automobile to the streetcars and the automobile the streetcars and the automobile to the streetcars and the automobile the streetcars and the automobile to water atea, whereupon he informed capture of county as it will to Portland, Seattle, the streetcars and the automobile to water atea, whereupon he informed capture of county and the automobile to water atea. Whereupon he informed capture of county and the automobile to water atea, whereupon he informed capture of an automobile to the streetcars, and the automobile to water atea, whereupon he informed capture at any of the streetcars and the automobile to water atea. Value of county as it will to Portland, Seattle, the streetcars and the automobile to water atea. Value of county as it will to Portla

If one is to be regulated why not Why not boards of examiners or registration for the mason, the roofer, the window-washer, the mover, the washer-woman, the tailor and the

stenographer? Such is the logical outcome of pa ternalism begun without reason other than that the occupation over which its fostering care is to be directed is, or threatens to be, invaded by incom petents. But we do not believe that fraud in occupations can be corrected by the state assuming that a large proportion of its people are impostors and that the general public must be

One great difficulty with the reser rationists is that they are so enamored of trees wherever found that they fail to recognize occasions where trees are a liability instead of an asset. That is the case with a settler on land in-accessible for logging, but valuable for farming, once the timber is off. To that settler the timber is an en-cumbrance to be got rid of, like weeds. The reservationists surround any tree anywhere with a sort of sanctity. In some places trees answer the famous definition of dirt—"matter in wrong place."

A Chicago judge declares Chicago jails are too filthy to be occupied, yet the sterenuous life of Chicago keeps them crowded. As these are, so to speak, the points of original entry common decency demands something better.

The brother of the woman victim to the pyre of the negro in Mississippi Saturday. lynching seems the height of cruelty at long range, but the blood lust runs riot in contemplating the law's delay.

Judges are advised by Chief Justice Olson, of the Chicago Municipal Court, to study anthropology and criminal psychology. A liberal sauce of com-mon sense and knowledge of the world should flavor these sciences.

The Washington Legislature is making a mistake in placing a bounty on crows and magnies. These scavengers of the field may do a little damage at times, but more than repay it in the good work they perform.

The status quo which our warships are to preserve in Central America is precisely what the turbulent people of that region do not want, chief joy is to change any status which may be established.

The new \$1 notes will be out in eighteen months, much smaller in size, but with the full purchasing power. A dollar, big or little, is a dollar anywhere, with Uncle Sam behind it.

from the Tchataldja lines, the Turks must now submit to seeing Arianople starved out or taken by assault. President-elect Wilson says he may

Unable to drive back the Bulgarians

cut his inaugural address to 2000. Then how are the weary to work in a little nap on a strenuous day? If there should be many more in dictments among the New York police,

who will remain to carry on "the sys-

A hospital for inauguration-day inebriates is being installed in Washing-

Of course, there will be a ladies ward. New England wants to put feet under the Cabinet table, but like some

other regions, cannot tell whose feet. Sixty-nine new doctors having been

passed by the state board,

demics of some sort would help. Apple green is the latest fashionable shade. Must be intended to match the ultra-fashionable mentality.

There is not much mifftarism in sing Boy Scouts to ald the sick and injured on inauguration day.

One would not know the state n need until reading the list of appropriations asked. Get ready for the Spring maneuver

on the southern border. Strike of electrical workers will shock somebody.

How careless! Words Pronounced. SHERWOOD, Or., Feb. 7.—(To the Editor.)—Please give the proper pronunciation of the following words:

The price of sugar has gone down

Sacsjawea, Indian squaw's name. Madame Curie, discoverer of ra-Chico, a town in California, IMOGENE L. ROSS. (3)

(3) Sack-a-ja-wee-a; accent on fourth syllable. (3) Ku-ree; accent on second syl-

(2) Chee-ko; accent on first syllable.

CONTINGENCIES IN BRIDGE PLAN Details on Which Interstate Bridge

Hangs Are Criticised. VANCOUVER, Wash., Feb. 6.—(To the Editor.)—From all reports that the interstate bridge committee has given out it appears that the modus operandi for raising the bridge fund is: That Oregon and Washington shall each provide one-half the cost—which will probably amount to \$2,000,000; that the State of Washington appropriate \$500,000 on condition that Clarke County "make up the balance" This is a very indefinite proposition, to say the least. The "balance" might be \$250,000, \$500,000 or any other sum.

Is this intended as a "rider" to defeat the bridge appropriation? Can an undertaking of this magnitude be successfully launched on a contingency whereby no appropriation could be available until Clarke (or any other county) should bond itself for the "balance," which might be any sum. out it appears that the modus one

balance," which might be any sum, ot less than \$500,000? So we have

as she is today on the trans-continental railroads.

The talk about farmers driving teams from Clarke County to Portland with produce is all folly, except it be a few market gardeners. A farmer living within six or eight miles of Vancouver could make but one trip a day, whereas, he could make two trips to Vancouver and ship by boat at less expense, besides marketing his crop in half the time. If living more than eight miles out he could not, if he would, market his crops in Portland by team. The great jams of pedestrians and automobiles we see pictured at the Vancouver great jams of penestration and automotive ferry, waiting in line for hours to cross, is not composed of producers trying to get to market, but consists almost exclusively of persons on out

almost exclusively of persons on outings, or pleasure trips.
While these events and the growing
intercourse between the two states
make the bridge a necessity, it does not
follow that Clarke County should bear
an unjust share of the expense.
The proposition as it now stands
means \$19.23 per capits for Clarke
County, to say nothing of the interest;
43 cents for the State of Washington,
direct levy, no interest, and \$6.63 for 43 cents for the State of Washington, direct levy, no interest, and 38.63 for Multnomah County if she raises, as is proposed, \$1,500.000—one-third of this probably for approaches; so Clarke County would pay about three times what Multnomah would, per capita, and near 45 times what the State of Washington would; yet, the state has 76 times the property valuation of Clarke County. Why not excuse Washington entirely?

STILL PURSUING THE RARA AVIS Quest for One-Legged Chinaman Falls.

but Mule Problem Promises Solution. PORTLAND, Feb. 9.—(To the Editor.) While The Oregonian is publishing letwhile the Oregonian is publishing let-ters from parties in South Dakota and Idaho, written by people who claim to have seen dead gray mules, I am sim-ply deluged with letters from all parts of the country giving particulars of the cases where the writers had the privilege of leading upon the remains. privilege of looking upon the remains

privilege of looking upon the remains of gray mules.

After 30 years of inquiry, in which I never even heard of a man who had seen a dead gray mule. I employ The Oregonian, and find scores of men who have seen dead gray mules and were to impressed by the singularity of the sight that they are now able to give the facts concerning the life and death of the Missouri roadsters.

Add ust received a notice from the collection department of the water would be turned off if not paid at once. I tried to explain, but my tenant was smarry, and I was unable to relish my supper.

The next morning I once more went to the "Temple of System" and tried to pay my bill. The bill had been

seven states have answered the published letters is proof positive of a
wide circulation and almost National
popularity for The Oregonian.

It has been my intention, should I
ever locate the man who had seen a
dead gray mule, to make a pilgrimage
to his abode and learn of him the things
that enrich the world, but as the numbers reporting promise to become multitudinous I will have to abundon that
part of my project. However, I am
part of my project. However, I am
to the value of the cashier of the source of the sour

I received word from Astoria of a one-legged Chinaman. I was much pleased to think my labors had been rewarded. and at once set out to verify the re

port. Arriving at Astoria, I looked up my informant, who proved to be "Old Dode" Latham. He is undoubtedly gifted with a queer sense of humo for he frankly admitted that there we for he frankly admitted that there was no such thing as a one-legged China-man and that he wrote me in the ex-pectation that I would come to Astoria and give him the pleasure of looking upon a new sort of freak. He appeared to be satisfied. We got along swim-mingly—"Dode" and L. Seeing that I took the joke in good pirit, "Old Dode" became talkative to

this extent. Son, there is no such thing as a one-logged Chinaman. There is a Chinaman at Roseburg who lost both

out, it doesn't appear that my trip to Astoria was so unprofitable as some trips I have made. Anyway, I'm glad I met "Old Dode" Latham. In the meantime has anyone seen a

ne-legged Chinaman? ROBERT G. DUNCAN. 549 East Forty-ninth street.

"Hobble" Steps for Cars.

Albany Cor. New York World. Trolley cars in Albany are to be equipped with "hobble" steps. This means the steps will be lowered suffi-

ciently to enable women who affect skirts that are skimpy at the bottom to get on and off without making a too generous display of hosiery.

The change follows many letters of complaint from women received by Seneral Manager Hamilton, of the Unit-

ed Traction Company,
"If you could only lower the first step
about three inches," read one of these
letters, "there wouldn't be as much occasion for masculine rubbering as
there is now."

"This seemed like a perfectly reason-able suggestion," said Manager Hamil-ton today. "Tests were made and we found that a three-inch alteration would do the trick."

Kansas City Star.

His Father-M'boy, I made my milion with only a common school eduation. A Difference in Finance.

The Son-But it takes a college edu cation to know how to spend it.

THE TROUBLES OF A WATER USER. Adventures in Paying Monthly Tax Are

Vividiy Recounted.

PORTLAND, Feb. 7.—(To the Editor.) - So giad am I to find that someone has had the nerve that someone has had the nerve to voice a protest to at least one of the numerous indignities heaped upon us by the city water department that I want to lend my support to the cause. Personally I have not had the particular difficulty experienced by the writer referred to, but with a multitude of others I have been obliged to go through a series of stunts at the water office, after a manner that would lead one to believe he had become a dog in a trained animal show, doing tricks for the master to gain his paltry reward. his paltry reward, When first I heard that a new system

When first I heard that a new system was to be inaugurated, I felt a certain amount of prids in the progressiveness of our public officers. But alse! I now see it was only the substitution of a badly tangled lot of theoretical red Into less than \$500,000? So we have this chain: Oregon's appropriation will be contingent on Washington's; Washington's contingent on Clarke County raising one-fourth the cost of the bridge. Suppose the voters of Clarke County should turn this proposition down. What then? No bridge for another two years.

And there are other things to consider. This is to be an interstate bridge on an inter-national highway, and what is there about it of so much benefit to Clarke County that it should be expected to meet one-fourth the water rates, whereupon he informed

> With a vivid recollection of an article in The Oregonian telling how much the "improved system" would save to the tapayers in car fare alone, I once more went to the water office. I applied to the information department, and was there referred to the oilling department. Here I stated my troubles and asked for duplicate wills. The cierk brought forth some forms fully half a yard long and then forms fully half a yard long and then loined a score of cierks who seemed to keep up a regular Marathen around a lot of tables laden with books. While I walted I left some better, for I found I was not alone in my complaints. A dozen others were telling of their troubles at the same time. At least the particular clerk to whom I had applied returned with the desired bills and instructed me to take them to the cashier. I did so, but noticed one was for 10 times as much as I had ever paid before. When I protested I was paid before. When I protested I was
> to do to to the complaint department. Here I walted for several minsites, and when at last I was permitted
> to state my grievances, the clerk said
> the would have my meter reread, and
> d for me to come back the next day.
> Of course if paying water rates inteferies with one's business, he should
> ould the business, so I resigned to
> in the inevitable and returned at the appointer time. The clerk consulted first
> one book and then another and at
> last said he would have to see the
> inspection department. That dore, he
> said he was sorry, but the meter reader
> had neglected to hand in the new
> reading and I had better call the next
> day.

My thoughts were not of the won-derful advance made in office systems, but of the good old days when c.m-mon-sense reigned. When I reached home one of my tenants for whom I had been trying so hard to pay the water tax rang me up and said she had just received a notice from the collection department of the water company stating that the water would be turned off if not naid at once. I tried to explain, but my tenant was angry, and I was unable to relish my sunner.

The Oregonian is entitled to the "Temple of System" and tried to pay my bill. The bill had been so obviously wrong that I destroyed it and so was obliged to "jump over" and seven states have answered the published letters is proof positive of a wide circulation and almost National popularity for The Oregonian.

It has been my intention, should a popularity for the oregonian.

sending to each man reporting for a detailed statement of the circumstances which ended the days of the gray mule and when these are to hand I will reveal the Importance of the question.

As stated in another letter last week. proportion TAXPAYER.

Impressive services in memory of the HOOD RIVER, Or., Feb. 8.—(To the Editor.)—What to do with our freed convicts is a grave question and certainly the present plan is a failure. From the moment a man is deprived of his liberty, the state, in charge of him, should try in every way to change his former lines of thought and action. If he has no trade he should have one, or if he is already proficient in any line, he can help in the teaching of and Educational Test for Release.

He should be so trained in studies and a trade that when his time expires he can have a good recommendation in some line of industry. Let his release be conditional on his ability to pass

Chinaman at Roseburg who lost both feet by the application of lime as a cure for rheumatism. That's what comes of taking fool advice.

"And, furthermore," he continued, "you will never find a man who has seen a dead gray mule. A mule never takes any fool advice, and a gray mule has sense enough to turn white before he diez. But there ain't any law, as yet that prohibits you from trying to find the rara avis, and I min't saying you could be in better business, for after all's said and done, what you're doing is just as important as a lot of other things that folks pay good money to learn."

So, considering what "Old Dode" gave out, it doesn't apnear that my trip to ever a could be some a cannot be been all of these men will make good, will you see to getting them positions and that they are given a fair chance and look well after them until they have gotten inare given a fair chance and look well after them until they have gotten in to settled habits?" If we could have such a committee that would keep in touch with this unfortunate class

in touch with this unfortunate class, and try to instill into their minds that their debt is paid, and they are entitled to a fresh start, there would be some hope of these same ones not getting back there again.

If a man shows decided criminal tendencies after he has had a fait show to make good and has to be sent back to some penal institution, then it should be for life, and he should be made as useful as possible to the state. There is no need of adding to the state's expenses by allowing more triais. The money could be better used by helping others who have not already forfeited their chance.

NEWBERG, Or. Feb. 5.—(To the self-to interminate min The Oregonian, Selvinary, it, saying that the British Board of Trade had ordered all sea-going ships equipped with life-saving appliances for all on board and that the necessity for such a law had taken nearly a year to soak into John Bull's head, but that his cousin Sam biline ago.

This is truly a good word-picture and certainly portrays admirably the characteristics of the two nations, but to my mind the picture is not quite complete and I would like to add a little more to it.

trials. The money could be better used by helping others who have not already forfeited their chance.

If our present Legislature would vote enough money to maintain a trade school in the penitentiary and before a man was turned out he could be proficient in some line of work, they would be doing the criminal class a great good. Let the teachers be taken from among their own number if possible.

The Lord hasten the day when we can use as much sense about human beings as about criminals, and there is so much more need of them. I hope Governor West may see his ideas carried out about degenerates, feeble-minded, those with criminal tendencies and, above all, the insane. Then will the workers for humanity be getting at the right end of the lever. There is a big army of thoughtful men and women back of him in this movement.

ALMA L. HOWE,

Prun ng Song By Dean Collins

(To be sung by committees of both

Come into the garden, boys,
The garden of blooming bills:
Come into the garden, boys,
For the riot of documents fills
The taxpayers' hearts with consterna-With teeming demands for appropria-

And wildly their warning thrills.

Whether impending debt, Or fear of the popular rage Should urge us our knives to w In the pruning task to engage, That matters little, the moment calls For the shears and gloves and the overalls And the snip of the knife, you bet.

Nine times a million bones Measures the big demand, So spite of the lobbies' means We gather the bills in hand, And slashing away right merrily We prune in the name of the treasury And heed not the dying groans.

Gladly we slash and rip, Shaving them down somehow; From these bills and those we snip Several hundred "thou." Twist the public lip, when it thirsts for cash,
And the coin, there's many a slip and

splash-And we must provide that slip. Truly, of course, we'd love
To let them by as they stand,
But necessity gives us a shove
And we gather our knives in hand—
And what we leave, when our task is

done, Still the gauntlet stern must run, 'Neath the veto ax of the Gov.

Trimming them one by one, In the garden of blooming bills, We'll weep and our tears will run Regretful, in limpid rills: And we will chant in a sorrowful

tune, "It hurts our feelings to have to prune—
But somehow it has to be done."
—Portland, February 3.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of February 10, 1963. The Mountaineer says that the board of trustees of the city of Dalles have given to H. D. Green and his associates the privilege of laying gas pipes along various streets on condition that they shall light the city free of charge for two years.

A captain of the Confederate Navy has been in Victoria trying to purchase a steamer called the Thames, but for lack of money did not consummate the purchase. His purpose evidently was to capture the Sau Francisco treasure ship on her way to Panama. The Circuit Court of Multnomah

The Circuit Court of Multhoman County adjourned yesterday. The fol-lowing are the numes of the grand jurors: J. C. Franklin, foreman; A. J. Remington. J. M. Strowbridge, Pem-broke Gantt, A. C. King, C. E. Hodg-kins and Daniel Gradon.

Nashville, Jan. 29.—Another fleet of 28 transports arrived today. They were fired on by guerillas above the shoals. The gunboats shelled the guerillas, who then retired. Liverpool, Jan. 15.—French official documents show that mediation in American affairs was postponed in consequence of the refusal of England

and Russia to join France, but the Emperor has not refrained from acquainting the Washington Government that he is still rendy to mediate, provided the American Government desires it. Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of February 10, 1888. Washington, Feb. 9.—Paul Schulze, Washington, Feb. 2.—Paul Schulze, land agent of the Northern Pacific Railway Company, appeared before the House committee on public lands to-day and expressed his opinion in re-gard to the bill being framed chang-

ing the land laws. Washington, Feb. 9.—Senator Dolph reported favorably to the Senate today his bill to prevent obstruction to navigable streams, which prohibits the dumping of garbage and refuse.

Washington, Feb. 10.-Representative Hermann has secured the insertion into the new land bill of the main featurer of his bill, which allows a second homestead entry to those who fall to con-summate their original entry through any cause except abandonment or sal

The Astorian has interviewed Hon C. W. Fulton, who has been mentioned as a possible candidate for Congress. He SELF HELP FOR FREED CONVICTS "positively and unequivocally declined to allow his name to be used in con-Writer Would Provide Prison Schools nection with the nomination."

Impressive services in memory of the New Park Theater-Richards & Prin-

gle's minstrels began a short season this house last evening. The Postoffice at East Portland has been removed from Raffety's building on J street to Fourth street, near L This takes the office some distance further away from the Stark-street

Hon. D. P. Thompson writes from Osycot on the Nile that he will leave Liverpool by the first steamer in May. Three passenger stations are to be rected on the line of the Portland & erected on the line of the Portland & Willamette Valley Railway, one at South Portland, one at Fulton and the other at the White House.

A new ferryboat is to be built at once for the Columbia River at Van-

couver. How Two Nations Legislate. NEWBERG, Or., Feb. 5.—(To the Editor.)—I read an item in The Orego-