

# The Oregonian

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Portland, Thursday, March 20, 1913.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

There is too much truth for comfort in Superintendent Alderman's remark that our schools have been trying to fit children to a scheme of education instead of fitting the education to the children. Intelligently we have been following the example of the Indian mother who, as we learn from the pioneers, used to bind a flat piece of wood across her baby's forehead and force nature to come to her terms in shaping the poor thing's skull. The system of education in most modern schools dates back to the middle ages from which we have derived it with some changes, but not much. In those days science was extremely meager. History was a collection of more or less grotesque fables. Mechanical invention had scarcely begun. Nothing was known of electricity or steam, or nothing of practical importance. There were no railroads, no telegraphs, no steamships. Pretty nearly all work was done by the human hand or by horsepower. Printed books were not in existence. Popular literature consisted of fairy tales and legends passed from mouth to mouth. Grammar had been fairly well developed. Some fragments of Greek and Latin writers had survived, but they were of course the exclusive possession of scholars. Arithmetic had been cultivated from the earliest times and for practical purposes stood about where it does now, as far as rules go.

In this state of human knowledge the curriculum for popular education was fixed. Naturally grammar, arithmetic and the cult of words overtopped everything else. There was hardly anything else to teach. Little by little the medieval curriculum which was the product of ignorance and intellectual poverty was being swept away. Time has sanctified its faults and glorified its emptiness. The world has acquired innumerable new branches of knowledge and developed all sorts of useful arts, but until very lately the schools shunned them as if they were vermin. Each generation has had to fight its way into the schoolroom and by the time it got there it was usually so deformed that it could scarcely be recognized. Naturally the ingrained habits of pedagogues fought against change. No machine likes to be compelled to acquire new knowledge or adopt strange habits. The almost irresistible tendency has been to fashion the new knowledge into the forms of the old and thus spoil it for genuine educational effect. In this way our schools have been made to resemble too many instances, while manual training has been hitched as an insignificant appendage to the tail of the medieval routine.

It is only a question of time, as Mr. Alderman points out, when all this must be changed. It is hard to say much to say, in his words, that we are on the eve of an educational revolution. Unless we are reconciled to drop behind the rest of the world in citizenship and industry we must contrive, at whatever cost of tradition and conceit, to make our schools fit the needs of life. The child must be prepared in school for the place and work which his nature craves. This will necessitate the overturn of a good many fetishes, but the general welfare is superior to any idols and no doubt the beneficent change will go forward even if its path should be paved with broken bones. The hope of the Nation is in its children. They are the future. No expense is too great which helps prepare them for what is to come. No labor is too difficult which fits them for their part in life. This is the true view of public education and it is the view which is taking possession of the schools. Mr. Alderman expresses a sentiment which has become almost universal among educational leaders. It is summed up in the maxim that the schools must fit children, not for a preconceived pedagogic scheme, but for life.

There are two or three changes in the schools which we may expect to see pretty rapidly made. One is the dropping of useless studies. The old notion was that every traditional study is useful because "it develops the mind." On this ground algebra, grammar and Latin were defended to the last gasp, but it has now been discovered that the mind is just as well developed by studies which open the doors to industry and practical efficiency. Why spend a child's best years teaching him something he can never apply when by choosing more wisely we shall see the native abilities of each individual child more and more freely recognized and cherished in the schools.

Another change to which we may look forward is the breaking up of large classes. This is indispensable if each child is to receive personal attention and study. Some predict that

within a very few years no more large schoolhouses will be built. In their places we shall have small cottages, one for each neighborhood, where a few children will be taught by the same woman year after year up through all the grades. Some such plan must be adopted if we are to fit the education to the child. It will be expensive. All good things seem to be expensive. "This only God that is had for the asking,"—but in time we shall cease to balance expense against the welfare of the children.

## MERE MEN.

The Oregonian would like to say a word for the downtrodden politicians who are prostrate in abject terror before the major-generals of woman suffrage. The question of their bad manners. The counts in the arraignment are several, viz: (1) Men smoke at the City Hall while ladies are present, and (2) ladies who visit the Courthouse to register are annoyed by impertinent questions and unnecessary importunities.

The Oregonian qualifies for discussion of these grave matters by reminding the ladies and any interested gentlemen that it approves woman suffrage, and did what it could at the election for the cause. It therefore addresses the ladies as fellow-citizens and reminds them that there is no distinction as to sex now in Oregon on the suffrage. The men have been deprived of none of their ancient rights by the new order.

If men insult women by smoking at committee meetings, the men also insult women by smoking in the presence of their ladies. Men are practically everywhere in practically every Portland grill and restaurant. If the women are asked questions and solicited to sign petitions at the Courthouse, so are the men. If they object to the surroundings of the registration booth, they ought to protest in behalf of all citizens and not one-half the citizens. One reason why we have equal suffrage in Oregon is that the men thought the introduction of women into politics would improve the character of public affairs. There cannot well be a rule for the women in registration or in voting that does not include the men.

The men of the City Council, long before women were granted the suffrage, prohibited smoking on streets; and the same men years ago passed an ordinance requiring the removal of women's hats in theaters. We rather suspect that the women, or some of them, would have been wearing their hats in public places to this day except for the law; but of course we can only guess. What we wish to show is that the men are not unmindful always of the public interest or comfort, or of good manners, and that they are just as ready to protect one sex as the other. That the recent little unpleasantness will lead the smokers at the City Hall even to greater feats of self-denial, and that they will not smoke in public meetings even when gentlemen are present. But the ladies ought not to expect too much all at once of mere men.

## WHAT IS GRIFT?

Some Eastern publications which relied upon the good faith of Louis R. Glavis for their opinions in the Ballinger episode are inclined to appraise Glavis' recent money-making venture in California as no more than an indiscretion. From a legal standpoint Glavis doubtless was not a transgressor. He merely contracted for a price to use his influence to secure a preferential listing of lands in behalf of certain large timber companies. Under these contracts he stood to make \$30,000 to \$50,000. At the time the contracts were entered into he was employed in a public capacity at \$300 per month by the State of California. The contract in the side contract was one of ethics of public employment. The state was supposed to be paying for Glavis' entire time and services. Yet, while under pay from the state, he engaged in a secret employment which promised to yield him ten times the salary he would draw from the state on year.

But overshadowing that question is one as to the moral right of one to sell his influence with public officials. Had the large sum for which Glavis was striving been offered in payment for greater part of the odium that now attaches to the deal, would it have been better? One of the most insidious and baleful forms of graft now combated in America is the sale or purchase of influence to advance for one firm or corporation an advantage over a rival, or to secure for it some special favor.

There is the politician who for a consideration will agree to secure a purchase by a firm or individual. He employs him; there is the boss who will for a price obtain early action on some claim against a city; there is the lawyer friend of the executive who for more than commensurate fee will endeavor to obtain the pardon of a convict. Favoritism of many kinds may be purchased by a firm or individual. We consider such bartering a crime only when a bribe reaches a public officer. Perhaps the hardest point to overcome in convicting Abe Ruef was the contention that money paid to him was a lawyer's fee, and it is an admitted fact that a large part of the graft paid to the contractor country agent of Secretary Bryan to translate his fine sentiments into action.

China seeks a loan of \$125,000,000 from foreign bankers. As security the bankers ask a voice in the expenditure of the money, the pledging of certain taxes and control over their collection. They also ask the countenance of their respective governments in making the loan, that they may be assured of diplomatic support in enforcing its conditions. There is sound precedent for this demand in the administration of Chinese customs for many years by the late Sir Robert Hart. There is good ground for the demand for control over expenditure of the money and collection of the taxes in the practice of China when she builds railroads with borrowed money. At the game of grafting the Chinese could give the choicest spirits of Tammany to Glavis and spades and beat them. There is no reason to believe that the change in the Chinese government from monarchy to republic has changed the Chinese character. The bankers are therefore justified in assuring themselves that their money is applied to the purpose for which it is borrowed and not largely dissipated as "squeeze"; also that the taxes which are to secure them are actually collected and turned into the Chinese treasury for payment of interest and extinguishment of the debt.

The Wilson Administration talks with the tax-payers of China as if to pledge are antiquated and burdensome and that foreign control is repugnant to the principles of the Amer-

ican Government. The bankers can but ask such security as China is now able to offer. Should China, like others more modern and less burdensome, it is absurd to suppose that the bankers would not consent to their substitution as security. Having lent their money to China, they will have a deep interest in the improvement of China's fiscal system and in the development of the country. Every such improvement will brighten the prospects of getting their money back.

The promise of the Administration to support measures "not give American merchants, manufacturers, contractors and shippers the banking and other financial facilities they now lack" in foreign commerce and the declaration that "our interests are those of the open door—a door of friendship and mutual advantage" are fine phrases, but nothing more. Experience has shown that the Nation which furnishes capital to other countries. We may have realms of treaties and agreements providing that our merchants shall have an equal chance in supplying material for a Chinese railroad, but if that railroad is built with British money under the supervision of British engineers, a way will be found of manipulating specifications and contracts so that British merchants will get the business and American merchants will be shut out. The key which opens the door is capital for the initial development of the country.

In this matter, as in many others, Mr. Bryan has shown utter incapacity to grasp the essential facts and to reason out the plain, logical conclusion. He takes seriously the fine sentiments with which diplomats cloak their real purposes. As a phrasemonger he is almost without an equal; as a statesman he is the great American crab.

Policeman Post, who gave a bad boy a sound spanking at his mother's request, deserves praise. He did a worthy deed for which the boy will thank him when he comes to riper and sner years. But it is the boy's mother who deserves the credit. It was she who, as a woman who in these mushy times has sense enough to want her boy spanked when he deserves it is a monument of motherly wisdom. Would that she might have many disciples, but we fear she will not.

The subject of a decent system of credit for farmers is not receiving any more attention than it merits from our public men. It is useless for Oregon to send anybody to Europe to investigate the matter, since it has already been fully investigated and the results published. Information is easily accessible. Action is what is needed. As long as farmers cannot borrow money on reasonable terms, their industry is handicapped.

The French Senate seems to have more power than the British House of Lords. When it rejects a government bill, the government is obliged to resign. The Lords do the same thing, the government calls an election, increases its majority and clips the Lords' wings.

Having contracted for extension of its subway system after many years' travel New York City could now be a model city, if it were not for the extension. It may then be ready when needed, instead of several years later.

Spokane Valley peachgrowers are at a loss to account for dead buds. They are fortunate their trees were not killed by severe frosts. The buds are in tender tree in high altitudes and low temperatures.

President Wilson and the House leaders may try to change the dress of the budget system so as to disguise the fact that it came from President Taft, but they cannot hide the Taft earmarks.

Democratic National committeemen have had to go into hiding from job-hunting brethren. A series of nervous breakdowns is bound to follow in the trail of this pie-cutting strenuousness.

Delaware votes against direct election of Senators, having fond recollections of Addicks' boondie. However, we can win without Delaware, for only four more affirmative votes are needed.

A local man was arrested because of a persistent desire to shake hands with a policeman. His customary ambition of such celebrators is to exterminate the police force.

John L. Sullivan is more than half right in advocating that the schoolboy be taught boxing. The old gladiator's advice on abstention from tobacco and liquor is wholly right.

In former days the Secretary for Ireland was "the goat" of the British Cabinet. Now that honor falls to the Home Secretary, who must do battle with suffragettes.

The Kansas pastor who jammed his wife's artificial teeth down her throat last night, is a family member. Identically, of course—may have been afraid she would bite.

Wilson's record Tuesday of 560 handshakes in twelve minutes is at the rate of forty-six in sixty seconds, which is going some for shaker and shakes.

The common grafter must look with awe on the record of Chief of Police Leprie, of Paris, who has just resigned after twenty years' service.

King Constantine's reign should have a good beginning, through his being the popular hero of the war with Turkey.

## Stars and Starmakers

By Leone Cass Baer.  
 Clara Beyers is the newest member of the Alcazar stock in San Francisco. She is to be second leading woman, but this week is playing leads in "Checkers," since the new leading woman, Madeleine Louis, is not to assume her position until next Monday. Charles Waldron, a former Baker player, will play opposite Miss Louis in "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," which Forbes-Robertson brought to Portland. . . . Miss Beyers was last season with Del Lawrence in Vancouver, B. C. stock, and by a coincidence, though not an unusual one in stock, Rhea Mitchell was ingenue with her then, just as she is now ingenue with the Alcazar. . . . Roy Bennett, a member of the company, is playing the role of "Dreams" in its title, and Henry Miller is director of the company. Next Sunday night Oloott opens a fortnight's engagement at the Columbia in San Francisco.

Simply put the play in my trunk and awaited developments. I thought that the least I could do would be to get \$10,000 out of it in the course of a season in royalties. So I waited. I waited so long that I forgot all about it until I received a letter from Sanger & Jordan, the New York play brokers, offering me \$700 for "Vivian's Past." I wondered what it was and whether or not and let it go at that, and after much bargaining back and forth I got them to return all my rights. Just a few days ago I saw an announcement that Blanche Ring is to be sent out to the States. "When Claudia Smiles," by Leo Ditrichstein. "When Claudia Smiles" Ring has secured it last past, and for a great deal less money than I thought it would be worth to Harry Conner and Emma Janyver, and that fact makes it look like a million for the proposition for Miss Ring, and for \$2000!

He said this as though he might have been Leo the Pink.

Anita Allen, who has the part of the sweetheart in "The End of the World," Nat Carr's playlet at the Empress, boasts that she is native and theatrical in the Pacific Coast product. She was born in San Francisco, gained her first stage experience with the Neill-Morocco Stock Company, was graduated from the ranks of the Alcazar Stock Company of San Francisco and allied engagements with various companies in Portland, Seattle, Spokane and Oakland, Cal. Miss Allen was the leading lady for the Empress and Drew Company at the old Heilig in this city, coming to Portland with "Dad" Russell after playing for 70 weeks under his management in Seattle. The young actress declares her record of 70 weeks in Seattle as ingenue has not been exceeded by any other Thespian in the history of the Sound city. After the abandonment of the Empress cases Drew Company here Miss Allen joined the Auditorium Stock Company in Spokane and later she was affiliated as ingenue with Ye Liberty Stock Company of Oakland, Cal. Between times, Miss Allen has made many visits to Portland. She was here with "Florence Roberts in 'Zaza,' was seen here as 'Stephanus,' a boy, in "The Sign of the Cross" and played in Portland with "The Girl From Rector's" and "The Girl in the Taxi," in both of which productions she had the role of the French maid. Miss Allen has been with the Nat Carr company since last December.

Blanche Bates will begin a Spring tour next month under the management of Charles Frohman in A. E. W. Mason's "The Witness for the Defense."

During her stay in Portland this week Miss McCabe, leading character in "The Sign of the Cross" and the headlining attraction at the Orpheum, is the guest of her nephew, Harry Anderson, and Mrs. Anderson at their Irvington home on East Eleventh street North. George V. Hobart, author of "An Opening Night" wrote the part of Mrs. Lane, the landlady, for the express purpose of exploiting Miss McCabe's laugh. Her preceding visit to Portland was made as Mrs. Canby in "Arison" at the old Marquam Grand.

Sidney Baxter, the wiry Scotchman who has been entertaining on the wire at the Orpheum this week, paid his first visit in Portland more than a dozen years ago at the old Cordray Theater on Washington street. A few years later he returned to play vaudeville at the old Bank of the Third street, under the direction of George L. Baker. He appeared at a number of variety houses here at that time and special interest attaches to the engagement for it was then that Mr. Baxter and Beatrice Southwick, who appears in the act with him, were married in Portland by Father Hughes. This is their first return.

Catherine Calvert, who came to the Pacific Coast with Holbrook Blinn in "The Romance of the Underworld," and was taken ill with inflammatory rheumatism is still confined in a sanitarium in San Francisco. Miss Calvert is hoping to return to New York this month.

In the current Rounder, of San Francisco, is an accounting of the attempted suicide of Mrs. Jack McGreevy, who for 20 years has played the piano in the country girl with her husband in the sketch the "Country Fiddler." They were in Portland about a month ago. The account says that Mrs. McGreevy cut her wrist with scissors, but will recover. Says the Rounder, under date of March 13:

Mrs. McGreevy was being worrying over her husband's actions for several weeks. It was decided last night that the sketch would be cancelled from the Orpheum bill next week.

It has been the headliner in the Oakland Orpheum for a week, coming from San Francisco, the woman who was unable to play his part, his wife said.

He went through with it last night, but the women who were his husband accused her of stealing his diamond stickpin.

Hereafter woman will not be wooed so fiercely for her hand as for her vote.

There is no let-up in the effort to "get" Boss Cox.

March is living up to its reputation.

## PORK AND BEANS UNFIT FOR FOOD

White Flour and Drugs for Healing Also Condemned by Writer.  
 PORTLAND, March 19.—(To the Editor.)—I have read the articles of Dr. Woods Hutchinson and Dr. Madden and the Oregonian's comment on the Hutchinson article about flour.

I hold a medical degree from one of the oldest and best-known medical colleges in the United States and became convinced long ago that the practice of allopathic medicine was chiefly guess work, devoid of any genuine good and built on wrong lines generally. No system of healing can be a success that seeks only to suppress symptoms and not remove the cause of the disease. I gave up the practice of medicine for the above reasons, and spent several years in Europe studying the natural methods of assisting Nature to cure disease—drugs being also non-surgical healing, which is based on a correct knowledge of the values of foods and the chemistry of cooking, something the allopathic fraternity knows nothing about.

What is a starchy food and is intended by Nature to be eaten whole, for under the hull are contained the organic salts or natural medicines placed there by Nature to nullify the starchy qualities and aid in digesting them. When this is removed the flour forms a paste, like wallpaper paste, and is about as nutritious as sawdust. Beans contain large percentage of starchy, the vegetable equivalent of uric acid, are starchy and have no distinctive food value. Pork in any form, being fed on swill largely, carries much disease, particularly cancer, and is unfit for human consumption. Woods Hutchinson is a notorious scoundrel, and his article is only a part of the propaganda of the American Medical Association, which seeks to mislead and terrify the people with periodical scares—the daily discovery of new poisons, and the constant effort to suppress successful competitors of rival schools. The people are rapidly realizing that medicines cure nothing and that operations are barbarous and unnecessary in most cases. Modern surgery, or cutting for every known trouble is fakery—for the money only, causing untold misery and suffering.

Intelligent people should not take Woods Hutchinson seriously, for he knows not what he says—most of the time. REFORMED ALLOPATH.

## PENSIONS FOR INDIAN VETERANS

Congressman Hawley Outlines Procedure for Those Entitled to Increase.  
 CULVER, Or., March 18.—(To the Editor.)—For the information of the Indian War Veterans of the North Pacific Coast, several letters have been written to me as to how to proceed in order to get the increase of pension from \$3 to \$20 as per act of Congress, as moved February 19, 1913. I inclose letter of instructions from Hon. W. C. Hawley for their information, and return them to CURRIS H. WALKER, Grand Commander.

Washington, D. C., March 7.—Hon. Cyrus H. Walker, Grand Commander Indian War Veterans of Oregon—I have had under advisement with the committee of Pension the matter of the requirements of the law of Indian War Veterans in certain cases. I am advised that it will not be necessary for you to make these applications for the increase, but that the same was born in San Francisco, gained her first stage experience with the Neill-Morocco Stock Company, was graduated from the ranks of the Alcazar Stock Company of San Francisco and allied engagements with various companies in Portland, Seattle, Spokane and Oakland, Cal. Miss Allen was the leading lady for the Empress and Drew Company at the old Heilig in this city, coming to Portland with "Dad" Russell after playing for 70 weeks under his management in Seattle. The young actress declares her record of 70 weeks in Seattle as ingenue has not been exceeded by any other Thespian in the history of the Sound city. After the abandonment of the Empress cases Drew Company here Miss Allen joined the Auditorium Stock Company in Spokane and later she was affiliated as ingenue with Ye Liberty Stock Company of Oakland, Cal. Between times, Miss Allen has made many visits to Portland. She was here with "Florence Roberts in 'Zaza,' was seen here as 'Stephanus,' a boy, in "The Sign of the Cross" and played in Portland with "The Girl From Rector's" and "The Girl in the Taxi," in both of which productions she had the role of the French maid. Miss Allen has been with the Nat Carr company since last December.

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## The Unwelcome Return

By Dean Collins.  
 Tuesday morn, the mad March bunny gambled in the meadows sunny. And the winging birds were singing: There was joy in everything. Yesterday, my wide eyes lifting, I beheld the snowflakes sifting, And perceived the rakish Winter sitting in the lap of Spring.

Oh, Winter, you're unreasonable; Your presence is unreasonable; The groundhog's time, some weeks ago passed—had his grip. Pack up your little girl again. And take your farewell trip again: 'Tis time that you are trudging. You are fading— Fade away!

Unto that prophetic master, The United States Forecaster the bill. With a feeling deep, appealing, On his phone I gave a ring. "Why," I cried, "this snowfall streaky?" He said, "It's simply a flake." For Winter thus to take his seat Upon the lap of Spring.

Oh, Winter, your behavior Has no quality that's saving. You dawdled through the sunny weeks. The weather it was your day. Your right to stick you cast away; 'Tis high time that you passed away; Your presence were begrudging. You are fading— Fade away!

But though fleckle winds may blow, And dot the air with snowflakes, Falling thickly, they are quickly melted as to earth they swing; And snowflakes, they simply freeze, Finds his status quite uneasy. He can't last long, I'm thinking, Sitting in the lap of Spring.

Oh, Winter, though you're daring, It is time that you were fading; The climate is too warm for you. To lengthen out your stay; You are fading on a hollow prop. Oh, snow, blow malaprop; Pull soon you must be budging; You are fading— Fade away!

## Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of March 20, 1888.  
 Washington, March 19.—The Supreme Court this morning delivered the opinion in the Bell Telephone cases in favor of the Bell Telephone Company on all points and in all cases.

Washington, March 19.—The Supreme Court today decided the case of the Williams Bridge Company vs. J. J. Hatch et al. This was a suit for an injunction to restrain the bridge company from constructing a bridge across the Williams River between Portland Island and East Portland. The court holds that the lower court was without jurisdiction.

Washington, March 19.—Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, president of the National Woman's Suffrage Association, arrived in Washington this evening.

Washington, March 19.—Senator Stanford registered favorably on the erect a public building at Salem, Or. Its appropriation is cut down from \$100,000 to \$75,000.

Salem, Or., March 19.—Last night the barn of Dr. L. L. Rowland was set on fire by an incendiary and burned.

Astoria, March 19.—Piledriving on the seaward extension of the Jetty, Fort Stevens, began Saturday.

Paris, March 19.—The committee of initiative of the Chamber of Deputies will today consider a proposal to authorize the Panama Canal Company to issue a lottery loan of 40,000,000 francs.

Mrs. Z. F. Moody and her son, Mr. Ralph Moody, returned to Salem yesterday from a winter's visit in Southern California.

First Assistant Engineer Brinkerhoff, of the steamer Columbia, has been promoted to the position of chief engineer of the Queen of the Pacific, on the Southern route.

Jake Kennedy, son of J. M. Kennedy, the old Siskiyou hunter, shot a monster bear in the custom house, etc. in a mile of his father's house, says the Ashland Tidings.

The Portland cable road committee will today begin a systematic canvass of the city for subscriptions toward the balance of \$45,000 required to complete the cable road connecting the city with the heights. Preston C. Smith, R. H. Thompson, Samuel Heltzhu, A. W. Oliver, Ira B. Sturges, J. H. Hare, J. H. Parker, J. W. Bailey and Eugene D. White constitute the committee.

At the adjourned business meeting of the Y. M. C. A. the following were elected directors: J. Thorburn Rosa, R. K. Warren and A. M. Smith.

## Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of March 20, 1863.  
 Washington, March 13.—Secretary Chase has appointed an entire new set of office-holders for the San Francisco mint, and has received in response to the revelations of frauds by the department's special agents.

New York, March 12.—Letters from England call renewed attention to an immense fleet building in Great Britain for the rebels and to the necessity of a preemptory demand on Palmerston to stop a step to this mode of making war.

Sacramento, March 13.—In the Senate today the bill appropriating \$600,000 for defense of the state and purchase of arms, artillery etc, and maintaining 25,000 infantry and 3,000 cavalry was discussed at length.

Mr. W. M. Case, of Butteville, left for his office, a day or two ago, a bottle of Oregon cider, manufactured by him from the pure juice of apples. It was quite palatable, as was evidenced by the rapid disappearance of it, met with among the hands of the office.

The little son of Mr. Price has been found. He had accompanied a brother out to their father's farm in Washington County.

Good Words for Auditorium Board.  
 PORTLAND, March 18.—(To the Editor.)—In the report of Pastor Wainwright's remarks before the Musicians Club, an incorrect impression is conveyed by the heading "A Political Note Sounded," etc.

It is suggested that if the commission of city government carried, the Auditorium Commission would necessarily go out of office with all other commissions was made by one member of the Musicians' Club, and it was discussed in an informal way, and was not voted upon.

The majority of the members of the club have no desire to criticize, still less to antagonize the members of the present commission, and hope that the suggestions they have made will receive the courteous consideration that one body of men would show to another—both having the best interests of the people at heart, by whom and for whom the Auditorium is being built.

W. GIFFORD NASH, President, Musicians' Club.

PORTLAND, March 19.—(To the Editor.)—Please let me know the date on which the contract for the new Chamber of Commerce building was laid.

C. T. B. January 1, 1892.