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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1913.

WILL THE THIRD PARTY LIVE?

Decision of all except three of the progressive Republicans and party Progressives in the lower house of Congress to form a separate organization in that body will test the possibilities of permanence in the new party. Should they hold together, the Progressives would take away from the Republicans about twenty members, according to the admissions of the latter, about thirty according to their own claims, and might swell their strength to forty before the extra session ends. This would leave in the Republican party little over 100 members out of a total of 435.

Success in maintaining a separate party depends, however, on ability to devise a programme distinct from that of the Republican or Democratic party. A party has never been founded on opposition, on negation; it must have a positive, constructive plan of government to offer the people. Many close and keen observers doubt the Progressives' ability to formulate and adhere to such a programme. One such person thus defines a Progressive:

> A social hermaphrodite, he imagines himself a being of a superior order, lifted above the narrowness and selfishness of the contending extremes, and combining in himself the virtues of both. In reality he is only the ephemeral and impotent product of a period of transition and confusion, in which the old order has lost its hold on the minds of men, while the new order has not emerged with sufficient distinctness to be easily recognized.

At the outset the new party is exposed to the disintegrating effects of the two old parties. The Republican party is now under progressive leadership and will remain and become so more decidedly. So is the Democratic party under the leadership of President Wilson. When either of these parties puts forward a measure which the people approve as obviously progressive, the Progressive party will find itself greatly embarrassed. If, in order to emphasize its position as a distinct party, the Progressive organization should oppose such a measure, it would invite popular condemnation and its title to its name would be questioned. Should it or any large proportion of its members support the measure the line dividing it from the party fathering the bill would become blurred and disintegration would set in. Several repetitions of this experience would break up the party. But the temper of the people is such that men in Congress will hardly dare oppose a measure which meets popular approval, for the people are coming to value political ties so lightly that they care not whence a good thing originates.

That the forces of disintegration are already at work among the Progressives is apparent from the refusal of Messrs. Kent, Lenroot and Anderson to join the new organization in the House and from their purpose to aid the Democrats, and from Senator La Follette's giving signs of a disposition to co-operate with the President. When this happens ere the Democratic programme is more than roughly blocked out, what may we expect if the Administration should offer measures which win public support and which progressives cannot consistently oppose on principle?

Notwithstanding all the protestations of the Progressives that they are organizing in every county of every state and will have a candidate for every seat in the House in 1914, their party already is proving to have been a merely temporary secession from the Republican body. Where are all the brave battalions which marched to the polls to vote for Colonel Roosevelt last November?? When called upon to register and be counted, they waste away to a mere fraction of their former strength.

The Progressives may maintain an organization for a few years, but it is very dubious whether they will poll many votes or elect more than a small proportion of the strength they now claim in Congress. The first requisite to the maintenance of a party is votes. Without them an organization, no matter how perfect, will starve to death. It cannot live on a name. In order to secure votes it must have a distinctive programme; this the Progressives have not. Colonel Roosevelt will no doubt possess a certain importance as a political guerilla, a sort of magnified W. R. Hearst, but as a party leader his day is done. The people who think he was wronged at Chicago filed their protest last November and few of them will file it again.

WHITMAN AND OREGON.

The Oregonian prints today a letter from a man who still believes, in spite of all that has been said on the subject, that "Whitman saved Oregon." Some of his arguments are interesting for their naivete if not for their weight. Here is one of them: Whitman saved Oregon because he drove across the plains in 1836, "clearing the way for a wagon road to Fort Boise." He drove his cart to Fort Hall, but he did not "clear the way." The way was already cleared and he left it just as he found it. If his drive saved Oregon, what of Joe Meek's, who took the cart on from Fort Hall to Wallatpu a few years later? Surely this saved Oregon, too.

Jason Lee went over the trail with Wyeth two years before Whitman made his first trip. To be sure, he had no cart, but we cannot see that this is the decisive point in the case. If we may include among the saviors of Oregon only people who drove across the plains in carts, history must be rewritten. We should prefer for our part a savior whose legs were sturdy enough to get along without a vehicle.

It is not disputed that Whitman went through great suffering on his trip to the East and that he deserves much credit for his perseverance. It was a scandal that all his heroic exertion should have been in vain. The Missionary Society ought by all means to have heeded his petition and granted him aid. But it did not and there the matter ended. Whitman contributed very little to the assembling of the emigrant party of 1843. Many influences combined to turn the tide of migration toward Oregon. His lectures may have done something, but they were not an important factor. He joined the party more for his own convenience than for any other reason. He was miserably poor at the time and had no other way to return to his mission. On the march he was obliged to beg provisions from the Applegates and others. No doubt he paid his way by the good advice he gave, but that is a very different thing from saving Oregon.

Whitman was a good man and a devoted missionary. It is regrettable that his mission should have failed, but it did and Oregon was saved by other men.

IN THE HOUR OF NEED.

The cataclysm in Ohio is without a parallel in the National annals; and the widespread disaster in Indiana, through flood and storm, is less terrible only in the extent of the mortality. The loss in lives numbers thousands; the destruction of property is incalculable; the measure of human suffering is pressed to the extreme limit of agony, terror and death. The whole country views the dreadful spectacle with dismay, but stands ready to do what can be done to relieve the urgent needs of the stricken states.

It is several thousand miles from Oregon to Ohio and Indiana, but nevertheless there is a kinship in human sorrow that calls for both sympathy and action. Besides, there are here thousands of citizens who came from these states or who have friends and relatives there. In such a crisis, distance is annihilated and all are members of the great American family. Their griefs are our griefs; but our duties are our own. We shall perform them.

The Governor of Ohio has said that the great need there is money. Later it may be practicable and desirable to send clothing and provisions. But just now the call is for funds. The Portland Chamber of Commerce has been designated by Governor West and by Mayor Rushlight as the official repository for subscriptions. A general committee has been appointed to take charge of the work, and it is to meet today. All other organizations have been invited to co-operate with the Chamber of Commerce and undoubtedly they will accept.

Meanwhile, several thousand dollars have been collected and forwarded. Money will be procured and sent. Let all who can give something. He gives twice who gives quickly.

MAKE IT U'REN'S ELECTION.

We venture to express the hope that Mr. U'Ren will win his suit against the state to enforce the submission of initiative measures at a special election in September. We also wish that everybody might stand back and give him the whole rope. Let us have U'Ren measures and nothing but U'Ren measures. The advantage to be gained is important.

It will be remembered that Mr. U'Ren is an avowed candidate for Governor in the election of 1914. It will also be recalled that the Legislature made provision for holding a special election for the sole purpose of forestalling the lapsing of needed appropriations through hold-up for two years by means of the referendum. But Mr. U'Ren, it seems, is not content to accept the wise purpose of the Legislature. He wants a long ballot.

It would be instructive to ascertain whether Mr. U'Ren is so enamored of single tax, proxy voting, abolishing of the Senate, and the like, that he will plunge the state into an expense of more than $100,000 to get an extra vote on these already rejected measures. Let's give him all the rope he wants. The sooner he strangles himself with it the better for the welfare of the state.

WHY IS TREASON EXCEPTED?

"Governor Lister, of Washington," says a current news item, "has signed the bill abolishing capital punishment in that state. The penalty of hanging remains good for treason."

If it is immoral and wicked for the state to "kill" any man for murder, it is no less immoral and wicked to hang him for treason.

If it is, or may be, necessary to make an awful example of a traitor by summary execution, it is, or may be, necessary for the state, for its own preservation, to punish swiftly, severely and completely the dreadful crime of murder.

It was foolish for the state of Washington to discriminate thus between capital offenses, for the poor reason that juries do not convict of murder, and the state might as well recognize and validate the weakness of the law, and humor the sentimentality of the courts. But it is not sound to say that because some murderers escape the gallows all should escape.

The argument made before the Washington Legislature that juries will not covict because they are averse to the taking of human life does not meet the point. All candidates for a jury in murder cases are required to affirm that they are not opposed to capital punishment. So they are not, but they fail through sympathy, or indifference, or a too ready feeling that what's done cannot be undone, to visit a harsh judgment against the particular murderer they are trying. Yet, when the crime is surrounded by special circumstances of horror and atrocity—as in the case of the Humphrys brothers, for example—a juror nerves himself to do his duty so as to vindicate the law and to make an example for others, and thus to protect society.

Some people appear to think that the true effigy of Justice shows her not only with eyes blinded but with hands tied. What a sad mistake to prevent her from ascertaining with open eyes the truth, and executing justice with a firm hand.

"Man never is but always to be blest." He grows miserably weary of the comfortable dwelling where he has spent the Winter and longs for the country. Getting ready to go agreeably diverts husband, wife and children week after week. The distant hills look blue. The far-off scene is enchanting. When they arrive the blue turns to gray and the enchantment fades. All Summer they wish they were back home, and when Autumn comes the wish has deepened to wild eagerness. Safely submerged in the city routine, they begin to plan for next year's trip to the country, and so the wheel goes round.

STRAIGHT OR GRADUATED TAX.

The Democrats are girding themselves for a battle with the Republicans on the tariff, but they may have as hotly contested a battle among themselves on the income tax, which may be provided by the same bill as the tariff. The point at issue is whether the tax shall be graduated or straight.

Chairman Underwood, of the ways and means committee, inclines to a straight tax, while Representative Gardner, of Texas, stands for a graduated tax as follows:

> One-half of 1 per cent on incomes between $5000 and $10,000; 1 per cent on incomes between $10,000 and $25,000; 1½ per cent on incomes between $25,000 and $50,000; 2 per cent between $50,000 and $100,000, and 4 per cent on all incomes above $100,000.

Under the Underwood plan, a 1 per cent tax would require a man to pay $1500 on an income of $150,000 a year, while the Gardner plan would exact $6000. If the tax were thus graduated a lower minimum rate would suffice to raise a given total of revenue than a straight tax of say 1 per cent would yield.

The graduated tax is obviously aimed at the swollen fortunes against which Colonel Roosevelt inveighed so vehemently while he was President. It might be expected to command the support of the Progressives, had not the Colonel turned his vocal energies in other directions since the owners of some of the swollen fortunes became his "angels." To quote an ungrammatical philosopher, "Circumstances alters cases."

ADRIANOPLE.

The loss of Adrianople is a blow of singular severity to the Turks. The city is the strongest fortress in their empire except the capital itself, and it is the original seat of their military power in Europe. No doubt the latter fact is more important to them than the former, for in spite of their barbarism and frequent brutality the Turks are a sentimental people. Their desperate defense of Adrianople proves that they look upon its fall as the signal for their final retreat from Europe, the last act in the collapse of a career which has extended through seven centuries of almost continuous victory. It is only within the last fifty years that their military prestige has decisively declined. The Turks did not begin their irruptions into Europe by way of Constantinople and the narrow Bosphorus, as one might have expected. They chose rather to make their way across the Aegean Sea and break into the defenseless borders of Macedonia. Here, beginning in 1331, they planted a succession of warlike colonies, which subsisted on the plunder of the peaceful and timid inhabitants.

As these colonies grew more numerous the Sultans, who were then established at Brusa, in Asia Minor, subjected them to a feudal system. The land was bestowed upon military chieftains, who were required to provide the sovereign with a fixed number of men and horses in return for their holdings. Feudal tenures were in all parts of the world the natural outgrowth of the settlement of a limited number of conquerors among an unfriendly population. Within thirty years Adrianople was so enveloped by Turkish settlements that its fall became a matter of course and the capital of the empire was moved there from Brusa. The invaders did not capture Constantinople until 1453, a century later. Adrianople derives its name from the Emperor Hadrian, who virtually founded the city. A village had existed on the site from very ancient times, but Hadrian rebuilt it, adding imposing fortifications and made it one of the strongholds of the Roman empire. Although the valley where it is situated has been reduced almost to a desert by Turkish misrule, the land is extremely fertile, and in Roman times the city and the province surrounding it enjoyed great prosperity.

Adrianople lay directly in the line of march of the Goths, who, in the fourth century, tried to capture Constantinople. In August of the year 378 they were encamped twelve miles from its walls with a great army. Opposed to them was the Emperor Valens, who had made a hasty march from Constantinople. His troops arrived on the field weary with their exertions, exhausted by the burning August sun and famished for food. The Goths were fresh and confident. The Romans began the attack in a desultory way, advancing without concert and retreating at the first show of resistance. The spirit of the imperial legions had sadly degenerated since Caesar met and defeated the Gauls. The Gothic cavalry hemmed the Romans in on every side and slew them almost without effort. Their victory was complete. The slaughter is said by historians to have been more bloody than Hannibal inflicted after Cannae and the consequences of the defeat incomparably worse. All Thrace except Adrianople itself was lost to the enfeebled empire and the victorious Goths were prevented from taking Constantinople only by the solidity of its walls. The frightened population would have offered but slight resistance to the vigorous invaders, but they did not understand the art of besieging walled cities and had therefore to retreat without completing their conquest.

Adrianople declined in commercial importance with the collapse of the Greek empire. The Turks were more concerned to extort tribute from the inhabitants than to encourage their trade. Massacre followed massacre of the unfortunate people who refused to accept the Koran and the vilayet of which Adrianople is the capital gradually became desolate. When the Bulgarians laid siege to the city it contained some 80,000 inhabitants, of whom more than half were Turks. The remainder were Greeks and Bulgars, with a sprinkling of Armenians and other wanderers from the levantine countries. It was not a beautiful place, even before it had been blasted by the siege guns. Most of the buildings were mean wooden structures, and the narrow streets, like those of all Turkish towns, were filthy to the last degree. Still it was not wholly disreputable. The Greeks had built a college whose walls of solid stone and noble architecture contrasted agreeably with the miserable surroundings. One of the suburbs was laid out on the civilized European plan, with lawns about the houses and well-kept streets, but upon the whole Adrianople was a city built in the expectation that any display of wealth and prosperity would tempt the military plunderer. The inhabitants had not much property, and what they had they concealed the best they could.

The Turk has blighted every land that he has conquered. In the Balkan provinces his rule has been especially baneful, because in those regions the natural fertility of the soil constantly tempted the inhabitants to increase their families and accumulate wealth, while every such attempt led to new massacres. The Turks were the only armed men in the villages. Domineering without restraint over their helpless neighbors, the first sign of prosperity provoked them to indiscriminate slaughter. Thus the history of Adrianople and its surrounding vilayet since the Turks conquered it has been a tale of bloodshed and unremitting cruelty. The victory of the Bulgarian armies ushers in a new day with fairer prospects and brighter hopes.

Pennsylvania's Senate has passed a bill to require a state examination of journalists. Whether this dignified term applies to reporters as well as editors and miscellaneous contributors is not quite certain, but if anybody has been omitted the law can be amended and probably it will be. The tendency is to subject every human being to a state examination. Babies are already caught. Before long the law will lay its hands on farmers, poets and blacksmiths. The comforting thought is that every examination pays a fee to some worthy official.

An Eastern educationalist, Dr. Snedden, has come out boldly against algebra as a required high school study. He would let those take it who wish and permit others to study something else. The notion that algebra is necessary "for mental discipline" he pronounces unsound. It is "nothing more than a belief or tradition," he says. It is usually conceded that the Greeks of Pericles' time had minds fairly well disciplined. How did they manage it? They had no algebra and they did not study Latin.

Gold production in the Transvaal last February increased 8 per cent over February, 1912, and 29 per cent over February, 1910. For the year 1913 it may reach $200,000,000. Other sections of Africa are also increasing their production, West Africa's output so far this year being double that of the same period of 1910. Africa is the world's great gold and diamond mine.

Should bursting dams aggravate the horrors of the Ohio floods, we may hesitate to adopt the Pinchot plan of storing flood waters near the sources of streams. A flood which comes gradually and runs off more slowly may be preferred to one which comes suddenly and with resistless destructive force.

With the advent of Senator Lewis, of Illinois, whiskers may again come into fashion in the Senate, but they will not be of the wildly flowing variety which was seen in Populist days. No, they will be highly esthetic, carefully brushed, combed and perfumed. Other times, other whiskers.

The German attitude toward disarmament at the last Hague conference gives little ground to expect that the Kaiser will entertain Winston Churchill's proposal to suspend naval construction.

When President Roosevelt needed a man to meet an emergency, his custom was to "send Taft." Has not President Wilson a lieutenant of equal caliber that he should talk of going to Ohio himself?

Where is that great army Huerta was going to send against Carranza? Is it busy holding down Mexico City or is it chasing Zapatistas in the Southern Mexican states?

No, Leopold. Barbara Hare is a character in "The Follies," and not a tonsorial operation on the person of a rabbit, as you infer.

Policemen hereafter will attend public dances. There also should be provided a referee to enforce breaking in the clinches.

Oregon potatoes and apples are being rushed to the stricken districts. Which is considerable in the way of compensation.

And once again: Have your wife, your daughter, your sister, your aunt, your grandmother and the hired girl registered?

Adrianople and Cananea fell on the same day. Thus Mars gave us a touch of both ridiculous and sublime in warfare.

No Democratic candidates for Mayor have materialized. They're all too busy watching the National plum crop fail.

These disasters emphasize the need of a National emergency fund that can be used during vacation of Congress.

Railway corporations may be called soulless, but in time of affliction their managers show they have hearts.

The Lower Mississippi is to be heard from next, but the valley is broad and the planting season has not begun.

Olympic Club visitors are heartily wished pleasant dreams by Multnomah Club hosts this evening.

A centenarian is coming to Portland from Kansas. He must plan to live another hundred.

Oregonians' experience with high water gives little conception of floods in the Middle West.

Councilmen resent the implication that they are not gentlemen when it comes to smoking.

Local state societies can get Oregon potatoes and onions at low rates in carlots.

Wilkie Dunlway is showing those Eastern billiardists a little of M. A. A. C. finesse.

The price of a few smokes will nourish the afflicted in their time of need.

Just enough flood hereabouts to make the farmers smile.

Many will die while systematic relief is getting started.

The best sort of relief lies in the "big iron dollar."

Send a car of Oregon onions, and then another.

Many will believe in the fatality of 1913.

FIGURING BOARD FEET IN STICK.

Several Correspondents Try Hand at Problem With Varying Results.

ALPHA, Wash., March 24.—(To the Editor.)—To ascertain the board measure in a stick of timber of pyramid shape. First get the area of each end, then multiply them together, then take the square root of their product, which will give the area at the middle of the stick, then add the three areas together and divide the sum by three, which will give the mean area of the stick, then multiply this by the length and divide the result by 12.

A stick 12 by 12 inches at the base and 6 by 6 inches at the small end, 40 feet long, by this rule contains 280 feet board measure. Your Chehalis correspondent gives it 300 feet, 20 feet more.

Now let us try the two rules on a larger stick, say 12 by 14 inches at the base and 7 by 8 inches at the small end, 40 feet long, and we find that the Chehalis rule only gains about 17 feet. Now let us try it on another. A telegraph pole 8 by 8 inches at the base and 4 by 4 inches at the small end and 27 feet long contains 74 feet board measure by the rule I apply, and by the Chehalis correspondent's rule it contains 90 feet. It seems that his per cent increases on smaller timbers. I will bet one of our hard, frozen Easter eggs I am right.

The rule The Oregonian gave is somewhat complex, but it gets there just the same. Any way, if we can place a big order for telephone poles we will apply the Chehalis rule of measurement, then we can keep even on the Democratic tariff reduction on lumber and square timbers. FRANK SCOTT.

GOBLE, Or., March 24.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian I notice an answer to the question "how many feet in a stick or sawn telephone pole 6 by 6 by 12, by 12 by 40."

The way we tallymen on the Columbia River measure such a stick is as follows:

Square of 6 is	36
Square of 12 is	144
Square of 12 plus 6 (18) is	324
Total	504

Multiply this sum by one-sixth of the length and divide by 12. The proper answer is 280.

All tapering timbers like the above are bought and sold, figured by the above rule. J. BRYANT,
Talleyman.

WASCO, Or., March 24.—(To the Editor.)—Your answer of 280 feet in the timber problem is not right. A good rule is to add both ends together and divide by 2. The stick is the equivalent of nine 1-inch boards piled one on top of the other, and nine inches wide the whole length of stick of 40 feet long. The problem stands thus: Nine times nine equals 81; multiply 81 by 40 and divide by 12. The stick has 270 feet in it. S. N. WILLARD.

CORVALLIS, Or., March 24.—(To the Editor.)—I note a question asked in The Oregonian by R. F. Martindale as to the number of board feet in a timber 12x12 inches on one end, 6x6 inches on the other and 40 feet long. You state "find the number of entire feet in the stick and divide by 12 to obtain number of board feet." Did you not intend to say multiply by 12 to obtain number of board feet? If you said what you meant I confess that I do not understand you. Otherwise, I coincide with your solution.

Relative to I. H. Crumley's solution, I agree with you also. A simple way to ascertain the mean base is to multiply one side of each end together, that is 12 times 6 is 72 or the mean base. This rule holds good in all cases, and is much shorter, and so far as I know it originated with myself. W. A. WELLS.

WHITMAN AND SAVING OF OREGON

Writer Thinks Emigration Led by Missionary Saved State to Union.

PORTLAND, March 26.—(To the Editor.)—I notice in The Oregonian editorial columns an article "The Whitman Myth." Is it a myth that Dr. Whitman crossed the plains in 1836 with a few companions clearing the way for a wagon road to Fort Boise? It may be a myth that he said on leaving here in 1842 to go back over the plains "the board may dismiss me, but I will do what I can to save Oregon for my country."

The story of his suffering on his Winter ride over thousands of miles of mountains and plains, freezing his fingers and ears in dead of Winter, may all be a myth. It may be a myth that he went to Washington and explained to Daniel Webster and others the valuable acquisition that Oregon would be to the United States. It may be a myth that the London Examiner had said the whole territory in dispute was not worth 20,000 pounds to either power, and the Senator from South Carolina said he would not give a pinch of snuff for the whole territory. It may be a myth that Dr. Whitman met the President of the United States and his Cabinet and with all the eloquence he was master of portrayed Oregon as the paradise by the sea and that he already had organized a body of emigrants to go to Oregon.

But it is not a myth that Congress sent J. C. Fremont with a body of men to accompany the proposed emigration though not coming up with them until far on their way, the largest single body that has therefore crossed the plains, and it is not a myth that Whitman led the way and was the ruling spirit of the enterprise.

Now what was it that kept Oregon under American jurisdiction? The only logical answer is emigration from the Eastern states. The division or votes of the 102 people had small significance except to show they were about equally divided in sentiment as to what country should govern Oregon. It may be true Dr. Whitman went East to ask for money, but in doing so he met large assemblies of people and naturally explained to them the advantages of Oregon. Thus was he instrumental in prompting the largest immigration project.

Then is he not the most important factor in settling the mooted question of jurisdiction? Why at this late day try unjustly to deprive him of the honor he so hardly earned and so richly deserves? J. M. OVELMAN.

Quake in Southwest Washington.

KALAMA, Wash., March 25.—(To the Editor.)—There was printed on page 8 of The Oregonian today an account of what was thought to have been an earthquake at La Center, Wash., March 19. In reply I submit the following from the Kalama Bulletin of March 21:

"Kalama Has Shock: A slight earthquake was felt here about 10 o'clock Wednesday night. No harm was done save that a few were slightly startled."

Some people thought that blasting was being done, but no reports have come in to that effect, and the Kelso Kelsonian claims that an earthquake shock was felt there the same night. So I think that Clark and Cowlitz Counties had a quake on Wednesday night, though not a serious one. D. A. BOURNE.

Name for New Railroad.

HALSEY, Or., March 26.—(To the Editor.)—I have been very much interested in the many nicknames sent in to The Oregonian for that Portland, Eugene & Eastern Railroad, but I do not think any of them are quite suitable for it. They could be applied to either of the other two lines that run through the Webfoot valley dotted with prosperous farms, surrounded with roses, orchards and green fields.

Now, since so many nicknames have been suggested, I propose to call it the "Many-Name Route." This name is soft, musical and unique. It could not be applied to any other route, and is distinctly individual—nothing borrowed about it.

A WEBFOOT PIONEER WOMAN.

STATE SOCIALISM NOT SOCIALISM

Correspondent Disowns Form of Theory Practiced in France.

CENTRALIA, March 25.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian, March 22, there appeared a leading editorial on "Socialism Costly in France," showing that France is suffering badly from "state socialism." Not only is France suffering from this virulent disease, but nearly every nation on earth is affected in a similar way. All armies and navies are "state socialism" institutions. Theodore Roosevelt says their condition in this country is deplorable. Having been seven years commander-in-chief, he certainly knows. These abominations of desolation" have cursed and despoiled the earth in every age.

Our courts and Legislatures are "state socialism," and, from some of their recent acts, it looks like corruption gone mad—the Idaho Legislature, for instance.

"State socialism" in France, as described by M. Beaulieu, as in every other country, is operated and conducted by the eminent few in the interest of themselves and their political friends. But with all the faults found by M. Beaulieu with French railways under "state socialism," they are a virtue compared with the railroads in this country, where they are "controlled" by our "state socialist" Interstate Commerce Commission—the kind of control advocated by our two old parties as a remedy for state ownership. France, under a corrupt state ownership, maintains faster trains than we do, and more nearly on the dot. Her roadbeds are a paradise compared with our neglected roadbeds, rotten ties and unspiked, faulty rails. In the same number of travelers, she only kills one to where we kill 20; only one of her crew to where we kill 30. Then, when it comes to service, fares and freight rates, we can discount her two to one for rotten service and double charges. Our railway system, under "state socialism" supervision, is inefficient and unsafe, and rapidly growing worse every day. Railroad men know it. According to newspaper reports, one of the most prominent railway men of this country recently stated that it would require $9,000,000,000 to put our railroads in efficient shape and safe condition. Our trains are operated over bad rails, rotten ties and ancient roadbeds. That is why we have the most fatal and deadly railway system in the world.

M. Beaulieu recently gave out statistics showing that the "state socialism" governments for the world were about the worst in its history. He says: "The world at the present moment is excessively badly governed. It has rarely been so badly governed. It is in the hands (not of the people) of incurable prodigals."

And he proceeds to prove it amply. France is not a socialist, nor a socialistic government. It is governed by a very few autocrats in the most profligate manner. It is something similar to our Government—a misrepresentative government. State socialism in France is no more socialism than pagan religion is Christian religion.

But in spite of this awful corruption in high places, for which neither old party has any remedy, co-operative public ownership is steadily making headway, and wherever the polluting hands of greed have given it any chance whatever, it has abundantly demonstrated its worth and value. W. RUBLE.

The state socialism which prevails in France is certainly one form of socialism. Socialism has many forms and degrees. We are not concened with the differences of opinion among Socialists as to which form is the best. We quoted M. Leroy-Beaulieu to show that any form of socialism under which industry is conducted directly by the state does not bring good results.

WHY DOESN'T THE PLUM FALL?

Failure of King Appointment to Materialize Worries Democrat.

PORTLAND, March 26.—(To the Editor.)—Isn't it awful—this nerve-racking suspense? Has President Wilson no consideration for the unsettled business condition in Oregon? Must the whole state be tortured with anxiety by an unsympathetic President? Is Woodrow Wilson lacking in discernment? Can't he be made to see that the welfare and prosperity of this great state must necessarily hang in the balance until Will R. King gets a good Federal job?

It is fortunate for the President that no one doubts his honesty. Just think what a fortune might be acquired were he to get a percentage rake-off from the tolls on telegraphic messages regarding the various jobs our Will nearly gets!

From these dispatches we learn that one job after another is declined because it pays only $5000. What is the matter with President Wilson? Is he ungrateful for Oregon's vote? Is it not treason to our King to rate him no higher than $5000? Just think of classifying him with an ex-President! The people are through with Mr. Taft. He should be grateful for a $5000 job. But for a rising young statesman, ye gods!

And in the mean time, where is your poet? Why doesn't Dean Collins get to work? Isn't it pathetic enough to enthuse his muse? Great guns! Why, even a Spring poet could so extend it from state boundaries to see that "a whole nation's heart throbs, waiting, yes patiently waiting until King gets one of the best Federal jobs." Why not make him Minister to Dahomey? G. T. A.

Sunrise in the Senate

By Dean Collins.

The halls of the Senate were lambent
With marvelous, mystical light,
When thither his footsteps J. Ham
bent,
The Senators cried at the sight:
"Oh, what is this nearing?
What is it appearing?
What is it that's coming unto us?
Is the light through the awning
Millennium dawning?"
And Echo replied from the lobby outside:
"'Tis the dawn of J. Hamilton Lewis!"

(Choric ode by the Senators)

"Long years the dim halls of the Senate
Saw minor stars modestly blink;
But never before, nor again, it
Hath basked in such sunburst of pink.
The dawn was long rising,
But that's not surprising,
Since Fate but infrequently endues us
With glories like this one—
Which certainly is one—
Oh, though we wait long, when it comes it comes strong—
The dawn of J. Hamilton Lewis!

"Oh strike the loud drum with the drumstick;
Let trumpets in welcoming blow,
Lean back in your chair and your thumb stick
In your vest, and just bask in the glow.
Methinks it is certain
This aurora-like curtain
The glories of old shall renew us;
Oh, who such a ray has
As this, our great J., has,
More luminous far than the broad beard of Thor—
Hail the dawn of J. Hamilton Lewis!"

—Portland, March 27.

Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of March 28, 1888.

New York, March 27.—(Special dispatch from the editor of The Oregonian.)—The committee from Portland found on arrival a somewhat different situation in regard to the joint lease (of the O. R. & N. road) than they had anticipated. They found that the joint lease was the conception and largely the work of Villard. It was he who obtained the assent of the several parties in interest. President Adams, of the Union Pacific, at first opposed a joint lease and President Harris, of the Northern Pacific, still professes indifference.

New York, March 27.—Ex-Lieutenant-Governor William Dorsheimer died last night at Savannah, Ga.

New York, March 27.—Josef Hofmann, the boy pianist, is going back to Germany with his parents.

Haverly's original mastodon minstrels open at the New Park tomorrow night.

W. O. Thayer came in from Tillamook yesterday. He reports the road all clean and says he made the 30 miles from Thornton's to North Yakima on foot in one day.

The captains and pilots on the Columbia and Willamette rivers have organized an association and elected the following officers: R. Hoyt, captain; E. W. Spencer, first pilot; A. C. Betts, second pilot; J. W. Troup, purser.

Apples are apples now, a box of good ones being worth as much as a box of oranges. Yesterday four boxes of Jonathans sold for $2.75 a box.

Messrs. Everding & Farrell are fitting up a cannery at Five-Mile Creek, first above The Dalles.

The Oddfellows of Portland and East Portland have joined for the purpose of having a grand celebration on their 69th anniversary, to consist of a grand parade, oration and literary entertainment on April 26 and 27.

F. E. Habersham, of the firm of Hawgood & Habersham, civil engineers, has gone to Ilwaco, W. T., to start work on the North Beach Railroad.

At 12:20 this morning an alarm of fire was caused by fire in the dwelling of Hon. J. C. Moreland, 255 Eleventh street. The department made short work of the fire. The loss and damage will be between $1000 and $1200.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of March 28, 1863.

Several pack trains have left The Dalles within the last few days for Auburn, the trail being open.

Auburn, March 17.—The Boise travel still pours forward and the ferry of Olds & Co., on Snake River, is said to receive some $100 per day in payment of tolls.

A very fair house witnessed the rendition of the beautiful play of "Ingomar" last night at the Willamette Theater.

H. Windsor, contractor on daily mail route from Monticello to Olympia, has announced his determination to suspend the carrying of the daily mails and change the same to a tri-weekly mail from April 1. This is in consequence of inability to keep up with his expenses while greenbacks are at their present low stage.

Mayor Goldsborough, United States revenue collector, has appointed T. F. McElroy, of Olympia, deputy collector for the county of Nez Perces, which includes Lewiston and vicinity.

Nothing ever published by a newspaper has made so universal an appeal, has attracted so widespread attention as will the forthcoming

CHAPTERS OF A POSSIBLE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

By

COL. THEODORE ROOSEVELT

which will be published every week in

THE OREGONIAN

Beginning Sunday

These chapters will be published by special arrangement with The Outlook, of which Theodore Roosevelt is the contributing editor.

The first article deals with incidents of Roosevelt's boyhood days and is illustrated by new and striking photographs.

Love and Lying—An attractive page on domestic felicity, by Laura Jean Libbey.

Tong Wars—They are mainly fakes, says expert, although Portland's is a real one.

Save Your Furs—There is a scarcity of them and the price is soaring upward, reports The Oregonian's Paris correspondent.

Aeroplanes to Guard Forests—Heliographs and air craft will be used during 1913 to prevent destructive forest fires in our great National reserves.

Wanted, a Bismarck—Europe is short of big men to handle a delicate problem.

The Drama in 1913—Charles Frohman takes a glance into the distant future.

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