

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, April 5, 1913.

THE DESPOTIC LAND OFFICE

Not only do the laws governing acquisition of public land need thorough revision, but the entire administration of the land laws needs complete overhauling. Evidence submitted to the Senate committee on public lands proves that the present administration of the land laws has been despotic, capricious and frequently in violation of the plain directions of law. By its interpretation of laws passed for the protection of homesteaders and miners, the Land Office has effected a complete reversal of the policy of the act. Settlers have been bedeviled in a manner worthy of Russia or Turkey. The bias of each succeeding Secretary of the Interior has colored decisions of his subordinates. No precedents are observed. There is no certainty anywhere that the principles laid down in one decision will be followed in another parallel with it.

The rules governing adjudication of land cases are based on the theory that they are simply deals between buyer and seller. Originally this was a sound theory, for the land was sold outright for cash. But our land laws are now so complex that private equities of great value grow up which are at the mercy of the Land Office. They are matters for judicial determination, but clerks and attorneys in the Land Office have constituted the judges, though they represent one of the parties to the transaction—the Government. Only in rare cases is appeal to the courts possible. Congress has vested the Interior Department with wide discretion in making rules and regulations. This discretion has been used by the Land Office autocratically to amend and repeal laws and to put in operation their own ideas of what the law should be. They are the great Pooh-Bahs. In administering the law they exercise executive power in making rules, and they exercise legislative power in actually changing it, they exercise judicial power in deciding claims and contests, they exercise judicial power. They are all three divisions of the Government rolled into one. They are the law.

A land contest between two individuals is tried before a judge and jury, who hear all oral and see all documentary evidence. A land contest between an individual and the Government is tried by the Government through Land Office officials with no jury, and the judge considers as evidence special agents' reports which are not put in evidence, but are withheld from the claimant as "confidential." The same man who collected the Government's evidence may try the case and decide the appeal from it.

The statement that the Land Office has repealed laws may seem incredible, but it is true. In 1891 a law was passed providing that after the lapse of two years from the issue of final receipt by a homesteader, the department has interpreted away this right of the settler until it now arrogantly refuses to be bound by the law. Because the department found suspicious circumstances in seventeen entries in the Siletz country, it arbitrarily voided all entries in fifteen townships in that section. The Land Office has created a new class of homesteads which it calls "timbered homesteads," though the law recognizes no such classification. Though the law requires a homesteader to reside on the land, the department has been driven out to make room for scrip filings by men who would hold the land for its timber. By requiring as much improvement on a homestead in the fourteen months' residence required for commutation as that required for a free homestead, the Land Office has practically repealed the commutation homestead law. Congress provided that reservation of public land should not impair the right to explore, develop and purchase minerals, but by its withdrawal, at the instigation of the Land Office, excepted coal, oil, gas and phosphate land, and the law of August, 1912, made the right of miners apply only to metallic minerals. This cut out clay, lime, gypsum, borax, and other non-metallic minerals.

President Taft proposed creation of a land court to hear appeals from the Interior Department. The friends of the settlers propose appeals to the Circuit Court of Appeals in the United States and to the district courts for coal claimants in Alaska. But, in order that justice may be done, the men who, through long habit, are mentally incapable of dealing on a just basis should be removed. We think to President Wilson and Secretary Lane to initiate these reforms and put an end to the arbitrary star-chamber methods which now prevail.

"ENWET, UNHONORED AND UNSUNG." "Breathes there a man with soul so dead who never to himself hath said, 'This is my own, my native land? Whose heart hath not yet within him burned as home his footsteps he hath turned from wandering on a foreign strand?'" Yes, there breathes just such a man and his name is Frank J. Gould. He has been meandering around in New York for the last few months half crazed with the idea of the last limit of endurance. And now he is going back to France and there

he will stay. America has seen the last of him. In France he owns a farm where he will consecrate his mental energies to raising artichokes. He is never coming back any more because "America is not amusing."

Poor Frank. It is an everlasting pity that the American people have not turned their attention to making amusement for their bored millionaires, as Samson did for the Philistines. The only thing to dread if they had done so would have been that they might imitate Samson a little farther and pull down the pillars of the temple on the heads of the merry-makers.

In this great land of promise, where the hope of humanity is beginning to blossom into reality, Frank Gould can find nothing to do. None of our problems interest him. None of our opportunities charm him. He is going back to France to raise artichokes in preference to taking a hand in the noblest and most difficult endeavor that has ever been attempted in this country. No doubt some kindly instinct has guided him to choose wisely. A man who can be content with growing artichokes and nothing more is hardly fit to help grow a Nation.

America has done a great deal for Frank Gould and his brothers and sisters. Our natural resources have been poured out like water for them. Thousands of men have toiled to make them rich and are toiling for them still. The laws have been indulgent to them. Public opinion has endured hardships for them and their kind. We might justly look for some better return than sneers. It is scarcely possible to believe that America was endowed by Providence with its natural wealth in order that empty-headed simpletons might be allowed to squander it as they please. There must have been some other purpose in it all.

SAME OLD PARTY CAUCUS. President Wilson sends for the chairman of the house ways and means committee, and instructs him as to the Administration's views of the proposed tariff bill. The ways and means committee has a meeting and conforms with the tariff plans of the President.

President Wilson sends for the Democratic members of the Senate finance committee (which has tariff legislation in charge) and notifies them that the Administration has a certain tariff policy which it wishes to have incorporated in the tariff bill. The Democratic Senators express a willingness to yield to the President's desires, but are in doubt whether the entire Democratic majority can be whipped into line.

It is evident that the President, through the Democratic leaders, intends to use the party lash in order to procure legislation from Congress. The open door at the White House has no relation to the open floor of Congress, for the iron rule of the Democratic machinery is overridingly free to take independent action by Congress, or by Congressmen. The tariff bill of the Administration and all other cardinal policies are to be crystallized, perfected and adopted behind the doors of the party caucus.

It is a Government by party. We have no party because party stands for some well-defined principle, or code of principles. We elect a President because he represents certain ideas and policies. We elect a majority of Congress because it upholds certain purposes, desires and aspirations of the people.

Thus there are some things we yet do as our unenlightened fathers did. If we expect a President and Congress to ignore party and the party caucus, we must devise some other way than through party to elect them.

SENTIMENT VERSUS FACT. A revival of the activities of the peace advocates followed the speech Winston Churchill in the British Parliament, in which he advocated a year's truce among the nations in warship building. The World Peace Foundation quotes Mr. Churchill's words with approval. He expresses a hope that the "red" nations—United States, Great Britain and Germany—in the interest of peace and cessation of armaments. It rejoices in the refusal of Congress to build two battleships yearly. It quotes Secretary of State Bryan as follows: "Nicholas Murray Butler, an advocate of the Democratic policy of a small Navy, peace and arbitration. Mr. Bryan's utterances assume peculiar importance by reason of his appointment to conduct our foreign relations. At the Mohonk conference in 1912 he held up to ridicule the competition in naval armament among nations and declared that, if we told the world we did not believe in war and that we had no disputes we were not willing to submit to the judgment of the world, we should soon have treaties of peace with practically all nations, other nations would follow our example until the day of war would be past. He spoke in the same spirit at Raleigh, N. C., only a week before the inauguration.

term in Mexico should be reduced to ten days, with say 200 Vice-Presidents to replace Presidents who die of that quick malady characteristic of Mexican politics."

WHENCE COMETH THEIR HELP? Words of solemn admonition are addressed by the New York Evening Post to any Democratic Senators who may dissent from their party on the tariff bill and to the leaders in the Senate. The Post calls for a firm attitude on the part of the leaders to overcome recalcitrancy on the part of those who insist on protective demands in the interest of their own constituencies. It continues:

For any tariff bill that has obtained, after all deliberation, the authoritative approval of the President and the House of Representatives, it is now clear that with ordinarily strong and unscrupulous party management, enough votes will be obtained for its passage in both houses. Those who are going to fight against it are in a very bad position. The wise parent cannot forget that tremendous scene in "Jane Eyre" where the forlorn governess resists Rochester's plea for an illegal union. All the desires of her soul, all her hopes of happiness, all her thoughts of the world as it is, are concentrated on harking back to the solid rock of youthful principle. No present strength of her soul rescued her. It was the strength of those old suggestions rising from the past and summoning her to righteous judgment.

What is education but forming habits? All else is but splashes in the memory which perturb the child for a little while and then die away. But habit endures forever. Habit is character. It is rectitude. It is practical sense. Even sympathy for the unfortunate is a habit. If it does not end in action is a sort of debauchery. It may even disintegrate the moral nature so badly that all practical effort for others becomes impossible. The classical tale of the Russian Countess who wept over a heroine's sufferings in the street corner, and who died in the street corner, is a world of warning to parents. It is worse than useless to preach to children about their duties to others. The only effective teaching comes from making them go and do things. To do things is to form habits in accordance with party policy, but would be good political tactics. Republicans could then claim a share of the credit for relieving the people from oppressive tariff taxes. The Democrats would be driven to impose a stiff income tax in order to fill up the hole in the Treasury caused by their refusal to curtail expenses most carefully. Either course would not redound to Democratic popularity.

It is extremely doubtful whether appeals to party loyalty will make any impression on the Senators. They have more to gain politically by caring for what they regard as the interests of their states than by maintaining party solidarity. Perhaps the Western Democratic Senators will take the same view of free wool. Then we shall have a tariff bill that does not conform to the truth of Hancock's saying that the tariff is a local issue.

AS THE TWIG IS BENT.

Pointing across the street at the town drunkard, "There but for the grace of God," exclaimed the great New England preacher, "goes Jonathan Edwards." In his dialectic phrase "grace of God" was the symbol of something which he included the instruction and the example of his parents and teachers, the companionship of his boyish friends, the precepts which had been fixed in his memory as soon as he could speak, the ideals that he had been taught to look up to, the habits he had formed before he knew what a habit was. All these things and many more were included in the "grace of God" as Jonathan Edwards understood it. He had been saved from the miserable fate of the town drunkard because in his youth he had enjoyed the "grace of God" in a favorable environment. A writer in the Outlook quotes from Paul Dubois a passage of the same import. "If you have the happiness to be a well-living man," he says, "take care not to attribute the credit to yourself. Remember that the favorable conditions in which you have lived, surrounded by relatives who loved you and set you a good example. Keep a grateful remembrance for all the teachers who have influenced you, the kind and intelligent schoolmaster, the devoted parents, the record of his multiple influences have made you what you are." Had the early influences been different they would have produced a different man.

The intelligent world is at last waking to the importance of educating children in the home. It is rising to the dignity of an imperial problem. Everything else begins to look a little dwarfed in comparison with it. The world is becoming conscious of the tremendous fact that we could once produce a thoroughly well-educated citizenry if we only begin the perplexities of civilization would melt away almost of themselves like dew before the morning sun. And with this thought goes the other, which is equally momentous, that all education begins and centers in the home. In spite of all the regrettable facts that point in other directions, there are thousands of children, some of them highly gifted, who have no homes. Vice, divorce, misfortunes of various sorts, have sent them out in childhood to fend for themselves in the hard world. Thousands of mothers are obliged to leave their dwellings daily to help earn bread for their families. To talk of their homes is mockery. Still the fact abides that the homeless child and the child whose home is defective can never be educated as he ought. It is never something by its misfortune that he never can regain no matter how long he lives, and society loses more by the dwarfing and perversion of his powers. The first step in public education ought to be to see that all children have homes. It is important that the child who has no home should have a home. When this fundamental step has been taken we may cheerfully pass on to other considerations. We may ponder, for one thing, upon what is called by modern pedagogues the law of psychological determinism. According to this law everything that a mature person does or thinks and every act that he does flow from his previous acts, desires and thoughts.

The mental states of early childhood are more powerful than any other in determining later conduct and standards. It has been truly said that every man's ideal woman is his mother. From her, or the woman who took her place when he was in his cradle, he acquired images of womanhood that will go with him to his grave and will be the basis of his life. Almost equally enduring are the ideals of honesty, bravery, fidelity to truth and friendship, of patience

under grinding tasks, that the child forms as soon as he can look around him and understand what is going on. If he is in a family where blushing, deceit, dishonesty are the daily order of life he will in later years practice what he has thus been taught to believe natural and right. The law of psychological determinism tells us in learned language that the "thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts." They are the habitual thoughts of our lives. If they are bad they will be lifelong enemies. If they are good they will be lifelong friends. This portentous psychological law tells us again that there is no influence in the world so strong as that of our surroundings imposed upon us by our surroundings when we are children. They give us what Bergson calls "elan primitif," the original impulse of our course through the world. And not only that, they react upon us as long as we live. The wise parent cannot forget that tremendous scene in "Jane Eyre" where the forlorn governess resists Rochester's plea for an illegal union.

All the desires of her soul, all her hopes of happiness, all her thoughts of the world as it is, are concentrated on harking back to the solid rock of youthful principle. No present strength of her soul rescued her. It was the strength of those old suggestions rising from the past and summoning her to righteous judgment.

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One of these days an indignant citizen, somewhat of the build and temper of Colonel Wood, will sally forth in an ironclad automobile and court calamity (to the other fellow) for the hilarious glory of the dire consequences.

A Pennsylvania man will walk 2800 miles to see a woman who has a blue ribbon man can do. Still, many a track-walking toper has tramped as many thousand miles.

Paris laughs at the mishap of the German aviators whose dirigible landed within her borders. The Kaiser, however, will file the record in the card index, nifty for the next war.

Since California will have no exhibit at the Panama-Pacific fair, visitors will have to tour the state in order to learn what it has to show. This will not leave much time to see the fair.

Sending Mrs. Pankhurst to prison for three years is a miscarriage of justice. She should have been sent to an insane asylum, where her malady could be scientifically treated.

The record of the Chicago man with four wives, all living in the same suburb, is unparalleled. How did the neighborhood gossips let such a morsel get away from them?

One of the first things American women need to learn after getting the suffrage is to mind their own business. Then they would keep out of English jails and hunger-strikes.

It must not be assumed that the pretty Canadian waitress who married a count will not have to work any more. It may be that she will have two to support.

St. Louis women refuse to draw the color line at a suffrage conference. Women are learning the subtleties of the political game with amazing rapidity.

A cigarette dropped carelessly yesterday caused a \$100,000 fire in an office building. It is little, however, the smoker of them cares for such consequences.

Even the gloomy, gray stones of the Old Bailey must have shuddered at the scenes created by the suffragettes when the Pankhursts were sentenced.

LOW WAGES AND VICE PROBLEM

Writer Francis That Something is Gained When Girls Go Wrong. PORTLAND, April 3.—(To the Editor.)—It is true that low wages are not the sole cause of prostitution. But when the editor says, "To set on the theory that girls will follow the straight path as a higher wage, but why fall at a lower wage, is to make female purity a matter of mere dollars and cents. Such virtue is no virtue at all," girls who have had to work and support themselves and sometimes help support others as well, just laugh, because they know a man who could say such a thing as that about women has never needed money as bitterly as they have. He has never been hungry nor seen others for whom he was responsible in need of the comfort of a meal. He may have missed a meal or two; that would only sharpen his appetite. But to be hungry, weak after week-end meals, to have a meal that satisfies the stomach's craving—does he know what that means? To know that in one's youth the body is being so impoverished that perhaps healthy, normal womanhood will be forever denied? He would not be so sure of the good things of life—good food, good clothes, amusements, friendly people (only not friendly with her), and not to reach out and take any of these good things, but to remain cold and lonely and hungry, though ever so pure and virtuous—it isn't a very attractive outlook, is it? Purity is a very fine thing; but after all, is it the one-and-only, the absolute, the supreme, in the girl's life? Must the girl who works for the meager wage which is all she can command forego all the rest of life to remain pure? Is it worth it? Must she give up the pleasures of life, the pleasures of companionship—in short, a little more life, in whatever form she most desires? Is it worth it? Must she be utterly condemned as one who "has no virtue at all?"

Retha Childs Dorr, writing in Everybody's a few years ago, said her investigation of the living conditions among working girls convinced her that the great city was not that some of them had resorted to prostitution to lighten the misery of their existence, but that more of them had not done so. Life is a great, the supremely desirable thing, for working girls as well as for other people. Not existence, but life, free from the haunting fear of what tomorrow's change will come from, and what would happen in case of illness, accident, or an enforced lay-off from other cause. Pay us living wages—not just enough to buy bread and tea, but enough to live on, and then, if we have a surplus, we can do as we please. Men know you will find your work wonderfully lightened. When we are no longer hungry, when we can afford to live in a comfortable home, with a hall bedroom or an overcrowded flat, we won't have to meet our friends on street corners and in dance halls, and we won't be half so liable to temptation. We can be as clean and as decent as they can be. The hungry girl; they are more careful how they approach the girl who looks as if she did not need money.

When you pay our fathers and brothers wages enough so that our little sisters won't have to go out and work before they are grown, you will find your task of seeking for the cause of prostitution will be very easy indeed—because most of the prostitution will have disappeared.

As for vice and immorality outside of actual prostitution or the sale of one's body for money—that is another and very different story.

W. M. LISSNER.

It is so common a form of argument that it is perhaps useless to protest against the selection of an isolated sentence as the text for a criticism. This is what the correspondent has done. The Oregonian has very plainly stated that low wages have their influence on the prevalence of the social vice. But it has protested against the apparently growing assumption that chastity in general is maintained or lost as the result of the difference of a few dollars a week in income. In the exceptional instances the correspondent mentions higher wages would tend to prevent sin, but downfall of girls is accomplished in larger part by the offering of "pleasures" which would be beyond their means virtuously to enjoy even if they received the most liberal conception of the minimum wage.

The Oregonian again admits that the payment of a living wage would lessen the social evil but it protests against the correspondent's assumption that the prostitute trade in that of the impoverished girl in a respectable hall bedroom. To imply that there is a base encouragement to wrong doing. The pleasures of the fallen woman are necessarily brief. Nature if outraged will exact a penalty. Loss of health, looks, youth, deprive the degraded woman of her resources. In 99 cases out of 100 her life ends in a degree of misery and poverty unknown even to the ill-nourished, meagerly clad working girl, and, moreover, ends there quite speedily.

There is a distinct difference between the prostitute and the prostitute, almost without exception, descends ultimately to the lowest level, there to have her suffering augmented by disease.

PORTLAND, April 4.—(To the Editor.)—A saying there is no word spelled "cant," meaning cannot, etc. Will you please settle the matter.

OLD SUBSCRIBER.

The word "cant" is given in the Century dictionary and is defined as "colloquial contraction of the word 'cannot.'" The word "cant"—spelled without the apostrophe—has several meanings.

Trimming Leo. By Dean Collins.

Though Leo, in the City Park, Be much in need of manfaring. There are, methinks, but few who hark The call, or think the job alluring. So Leo's motto, day out day in, Make him more like a mandarin. Breathes there no man with soul so stout That he can enter, calmly smiling, Old Leo's cage and set about The work of putting Leo in a fling? Is there no damsel fair, whose smiles May soothe the lion while she files? Demean not yet, O Keeper Man, Though none accept the job you mention; I've figured out a way we can Employ for Leo's amusement. And working it, when all else fails, Get rid of Leo's sprouting nails. Let park frequenters, each and all, While grazing at his kingly feasts, Sniff and with scornful accent draw, "I hate such poor, moth-eaten crawl." And Leo, writing on his shelf, Will bite his nails all off himself.

SINGLE DEFEAT DOES NOT WRECK

Republican Party to Get Renewed Strength From Progressive Control. PORTLAND, April 3.—(To the Editor.)—A few days ago a new list of voters' admirers, now Indiana's conductor in refusing to compromise at the last Republican convention and join in nominating as the head of the Republican ticket the Progressive, Hadley of Missouri. His courage failed him and he could not take defeat; he could not see the principles he claimed so dear that he represented by a nominee unless that nominee was a man who would not subordinate personal interest to the success of progressive principles? His desire to head the ticket was so strong that he was not governed by his better judgment.

Colonel Roosevelt did more during his two terms as President than any other President in many years to awaken the public conscience upon economic questions, but failed utterly as a constructive executive. In fact, all remember at the time he so strongly indorsed and recommended the nomination of Taft that Taft could accomplish more as President than he himself could, which was true. Roosevelt, with his "big stick" tactics has been almost impossible for him to force constructive legislation. Of course, Roosevelt made it possible for Wilson to be elected, not by anything he did, but by his failure. Had he stood by and assisted in nominating a real progressive at Chicago, and not defeated him, as he did, he would have shown in the world that he was not governed altogether by personal motives. But before this defeat he was never a progressive, and while he was President was continually fighting La Follette in the living conditions among leading progressive Republicans. It was the popularity of Roosevelt that gave the Progressive party such a wonderful vote last Fall, not that they had adopted a platform of radical reforms and measures—not at all. Most of the following of the third party were men and women who are at heart Republicans, and were temporarily carried overboard by the popularity of Roosevelt's admiration for and loyalty to Theodore Roosevelt. Many really thought if the people had half a chance to vote for Roosevelt that he would sweep the country, but he was not elected. He carried larger vote than he ever will again, for it is always easier to defeat a man who has once been defeated.

Of course Wilson does not quote La Follette in the platform of radical reforms, but for the reason Roosevelt was and is a progressive for office and La Follette is now and for many, many years has been a stalwart progressive. La Follette is the real leader of the progressives in the lead and control of the Republican party the next convention will nominate the man who will lead the United States. Because once defeated by an accident there is no use in being discouraged, and no reason to think the party annihilated.

C. A. FOLLETT, 363 EAST GLISAN STREET.

HOW SOCIAL EVIL IS SUSTAINED. Men Make Girls Go Wrong, and Women Make Them Stay So.

PORTLAND, April 3.—(To the Editor.)—What makes girls go wrong? Men. Where there is one girl wrong there are 20 girls right. Men, with her wrong doing that they readily and joyfully pay her for wrong. What makes girls stay wrong? Women—nicer, more cultured, virtuous women. When, as a girl, I made my first mistake, immediately it was known was ostracized. My mother and my father who had spent half the Summer maneuvering and pleading for my downfall, was still invited to social gatherings, and my father as he ever would, though his participation was fully known, and I was not the first girl with him, nor the last. While unhappy, I was shut out from everything, and scorned on the street. I fled from the village to the city, where I found comfort in the arms of a young man among the demimonde, who said, "Stop your crying. What's the difference, anyway? They'd send you to the poor house, but I'll take care of you. I'll attach to you if you lived to be a hundred, while they'd likely do the same thing themselves, if they had your chance."

If I had received humane treatment my first sin would have been my last. It's about like this: "Why, how do you do, Mr. B. How are you getting on? O, you naughty boy! How bad you treated poor little Stella! You ought to be ashamed of yourself. I saw her on the street yesterday, but of course I didn't speak to her. And she used to be such a nice girl—so helpful in our charitable work. Don't tell your daughter about this. You won't fall to be at my party Thursday, will you?"

I have had men tell me—no one, but sometimes for weeks, coming and pleading with them trying to persuade them to wrongdoing. And perhaps they would end by saying of some girl who had yielded after resistance, "She is now a common courtesan. Oh, well, if it hadn't been I, it would have been some other man."

How are people going wrong? In certain courses are all right for men and utterly, damnable wrong for women, when the men require female participation? Must men be necessarily have to go "wrong" to keep men "right"?

P. S.—Why do men go wrong? M. J. B.

New Road Laws. BEAVERTON, Ore., April 2.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly publish the substance of the laws passed by the late Oregon Legislature relating to opening new county roads and assessing the damages? The bills are as follows: S. B. 41, 143 and 146. S. B. 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Children at Play—These modern times it really is necessary to teach the young folks how to play.

\$20,000 for Dress—That is the sum per year the French President's wife will spend.

Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of April 4, 1888. Pendleton, April 4.—The Democratic state convention today adopted the platform. E. D. McKie presented John M. Geary for the Congressional nomination. Houston, of Washington, presented A. S. Bennett, of Wasco, Smith, of Clatsop, presented J. K. Weatherford, for the Congressional nomination. T. C. Hyde, Weatherford asked that his name be withdrawn. The ballot stood: Geary 105, Bennett 25, Hyde 17, Weatherford 2. The nomination was made unanimous. For Supreme Judge, Judge John Burnett, of Benton, was nominated by acclamation.

San Francisco, April 4.—At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Southern Pacific today the following were chosen directors: Leland Stanford, C. P. Huntington, Charles Crocker, Timothy Hopkins, M. V. Huntington, F. S. Dundy, W. E. Brown, S. T. Gasco, Artil Lathrop, E. H. Miller, Jr.

San Francisco, April 4.—Tyler Wood, manager of the Portland branch of the Multnomah Street Railway, is in town, buying material for more street railway.

At Oregon City a plant for the manufacture of cement is being put in at a cost of \$100,000.

Polk County Institute—The teachers' institute was called to order by State Superintendent E. B. McElroy at 10 o'clock Tuesday. Hon. J. Lee of Dallas, delivered an address of welcome, to which Superintendent D. D. Vincent, of Washington County, responded. Professor F. Stacy, president of Willamette University, delivered a lecture.

Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, pastor of the First Baptist Church, arrived at his former home, near Chicago, last evening.

The Reach Tract Sold.—Yesterday Mr. W. M. Killingsworth purchased the above tract of 35 acres, near Albina, for \$35,000.

Last evening the Republicans held primaries to select delegates to the county convention.

The East Side.—When the improvement of Portland manager of the East Side, will be one of the finest in East Portland. It leads directly out from the Willamette bridge to the cemetery.

Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian of April 4, 1868. Dr. H. N. Kimball, of Jefferson, Marion County, lately had one of the fingers of his left hand entirely taken off and the remaining fingers frightfully lacerated by contact with a circular saw.

The Natchez Courier says the Hartford, with Admiral Farragut on board, anchored in front of that city on the 14th and sent a boat with a flag of truce ashore, with a note to the Mayor stating that if the United States gunboats were to be used against San Francisco.

At a meeting of the citizens of Portland, held at the Courthouse on Saturday evening, the following nominations were made for city officers: For Mayor, J. B. Congie; for Recorder, Levi Anderson; for Marshal, F. M. Arnold; for Treasurer, H. W. Corbett; chairman, E. W. McGraw, secretary. In the First Ward Messrs. Schuyler, Cook and B. R. Thompson were nominated for the Council in the Third Ward Messrs. Gray, Silver and Estes.

The real estate property of the late Buell Woodward, sold at auction last Saturday by Mr. Richardson, brought the following prices: Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 in block 3, with improvements, including the residence and garden, were purchased for \$5000; south half of lot 5 in block 3, and fractional part of the rear of north half of lot 6 in block 3, 2x20 feet, which is situated the store of Mr. DeWitt, sold in one parcel for \$3400. We believe this property was sold cheap.

The Roosevelt Autobiography

Incidents of Boyhood Days—In the second installment of his Chapters of a Possible Autobiography, Colonel Roosevelt gives a further account of the early part of his life. Do not miss any part of this remarkable story.

A New Science—It has been founded and would codify the whole universe.

Cabinet Women—A glimpse at the wives of our new Cabinet members, and an interview with Mrs. Bryan.

The Brightest Boy—At 18 he will shortly receive the degree of doctor of philosophy at Harvard University.

America's First Christians—Were they the mound-builders? The question is gone into by an eminent authority.

Children at Play—These modern times it really is necessary to teach the young folks how to play.

\$20,000 for Dress—That is the sum per year the French President's wife will spend.

Good-Bye, Seaside—Devices have been perfected which do away to a remarkable degree with the rolling and pitching of ocean liners.

Wild Wheat—It has been discovered in Palestine and will be transplanted to America, with results of the most important character.

The Compromise—A domestic comedy by the noted author, W. Hodgson Burnett.

A Romeo of the Orient—An illustrated short story by Willard Holcomb.

An Array of Our Feet.—Order today of your newswear.