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PORTLAND, MONDAY, MAY 12, 1913.

JOKERS IN THE TARIFF. If we close our ears to the loud democratic acclaim of the Underwood tariff as a boon to the poor, as a deadly blow at privilege and as a source of revenue to the Government...

A LESSON FROM SPOKANE. Sound, straightforward advice, based on observation of the preferential voting system in connection with commission government, is presented on this page today in a letter from a citizen of Spokane.

WILSON'S APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE. President Wilson continues his practice of breaking precedents. He is the first among Presidents to go to his own state and appeal directly to the people on a purely state issue.

TARIFF FOR POLITICS ONLY. The Democratic platform declares a tariff for any other purpose than revenue unconstitutional. This is not the Underwood tariff unconstitutional?

HOW TO GET GOOD COMMISSIONERS. Spokane's Errors Told That Portland May Avoid Them. SPOKANE, May 9.—(To the Editor.)—When Spokane embarked upon the campaign of selecting five patriots to take complete charge of the city's affairs...

SEINE FISHING AT OREGON CITY. Salmon Canner Would Protect Royal Chinook at Falls. PORTLAND, May 10.—(To the Editor.)—Portland, Ore., has been fishing for salmon at Oregon City and had the time of his life. While spending the day on the Willamette at that point...

Twenty-five Years Ago. From The Oregonian of May 12, 1888. Washington, D. C., May 12.—The bill relating to the O. R. & N. Co. right of way through the Nez Perce Indian reservation has passed the Senate.

CHICAGO REMEDIES FOR VICE. The vice committee of the Chicago City Council gives third place to what may be in the long run proved the most effective weapon against the social evil. This is "education of parents in the primary facts of sex life necessary to instruct their children."

NO EXCUSE FOR CARELESSNESS. There is evidence that many people are placing great reliance on the recall in considering the availability of the numerous candidates for city office. The recall is a valuable safeguard, but it is an expensive one to use.

WILSON SHOWS ALARM. Secretary Bryan is evidently alarmed lest the Republicans should get together again. He quotes in the Commonwealth Senator Howard's speech inviting the Progressives to become reconciled to the Republican party and treats it as an intimation that the quarrel was merely personal between two leaders.

THE BILL IN THE RUSSIAN PARLIAMENT. The bill in the Russian Parliament giving greater freedom to Poland seems, from the debate, to be the result of the recent danger of war with Austria. Russia sees at last that an oppressed people on her frontier, only waiting an opportunity to rebel, is a source of weakness where strength is most needed.

WRITER WANTS TICKET INDORSED. Doubt Expressed as to Effectiveness of Method That Would Prevent Diversion of Contributions Proposed. PORTLAND, May 11.—(To the Editor.)—Reports about the potatoes sent from the states of Oregon and Washington to the sufferers in the Dayton district, which were sold in Cincinnati at reduced price, proved that there is something radically wrong in the way the public help those in need.

ALASKA'S FLOATING COURT. New Orleans Picayune. Not many people know that the United States has a floating court which is used in Alaska and which dispenses justice there. Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo has issued instructions to the commander of the revenue cutter Thetis to be prepared to report at Valdez, July 12, to take aboard Judge of lesser courts of the Federal district of Alaska, together with his court officials.

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WRONG DONE TO LANDLESS POOR. Senator Borah's letter to Samuel Friedman urges home to the people of the East the wrong being done them by the reservation policy which now rules the Land Office. We have been inclined to assume that the people of the West are the only sufferers by the obstruction placed in the way of settlers, but Mr. Borah's letter shows that the same wrong is also being done to the people of the East who have no land.

A NUT FOR WILSON TO CRACK. President Wilson is said to be disposed to defer action on the question of Philippine independence until he has more light on the subject, but two elements are pressing for action. One comprises advocates of immediate independence, to which Secretary Bryan is inclined. The other is the business interests, which desire to know where they would stand before they make investments in the islands.

GOVERNORS OF FOURTEEN STATES ARE TO MEET AT PALM SPRINGS. Although Governors have seldom built good roads, that is a function of the people, sadly neglected. As yesterday was the seventh rainy day following Easter, the superstition has worked out, and pleasant weather is in order.

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