

The Oregonian

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as second-class matter. Subscriptions: In Advance: (BY MAIL) Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$2.00...

(BY CARRIER) Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$2.00. Daily, Sunday included, one month, \$0.60.

How to Remit—Send postal note or check on your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county.

Portland, Wednesday, May 21, 1913.

OUR MILITARY FLAWS

Secretary of War Garrison is pointing to the inefficiencies of coast defenses merely by his finger on one of our many military sore spots. He might well have directed his criticism to the entire military policy, military system and military establishment of the United States.

This must not be construed, however, as indicating that we are in a hopeless or precarious plight in event of war. We have potential military strength of great magnitude.

Mr. Garrison, in noting the weaknesses of coast garrisons, dwelt at length upon their vulnerability in the rear. Built to resist naval invasions of harbors, attention is given to land works, with the result that a few platoons of infantry might readily capture a garrison that could stand off a whole fleet.

However, the matter of land works in itself is of secondary importance. Inefficiency of men is the great shortcoming. At all our coast garrisons whole batteries are in charge of mere care-taking squads.

But let no one, either individual or nation, draw from these unfortunate facts a wrong conclusion. We might be temporarily embarrassed, but not conquered. We are vastly greater than our military weaknesses and can rise above them.

THE RECALL AND WHEN TO USE IT

Experience of Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane with the recall proves that that instrument of popular government does not immediately settle down into its proper place in the governmental machinery.

Such use of the recall was not contemplated when it was adopted in Oregon. It was designed as a reserve power of the people, to be used only against flagrantly incompetent, corrupt or despotic officials.

I have no fear of a recall election should it be compelled to face one, but if there are 5200 or 6000 voters in this city who will vote because he did what he deemed to be the public good, I am ready to step down.

ployer who is continually criticizing and nagging at him, whether that employer be the people or an individual. Hence the recall may deprive the people of the services of valuable men who may be the most efficient of public servants, although it was designed to improve the quality of work done for the people.

Portland citizens may well learn from the experience of their neighbors. They would be wise to study carefully the qualifications of the men who seek their votes at the coming election, and, having chosen, to refrain from disturbing their Mayor and Commissioners with frequent threats of recall.

Mr. Albee would be elected Mayor of Portland because he is equal to the job. Mr. Albee would elevate the administration of public affairs in Portland to a high plane of efficiency, decency, and order, and keep it there.

Mr. Albee would devote himself earnestly to the task of giving a square deal for all persons and interests. It is his way.

LET HIM STAY THERE

Mr. Kellaher handles the dilemma over the liquor business in his own ingenious way. If he shall be elected Mayor of Portland, he says in effect, it will take him out of the liquor business. Actually he says: "Help me out of the business by taking me out of it."

Mr. Albee would creditably represent the dignity and importance of Portland on public occasions. That is something.

Mr. Albee will traffic with no political machine or organization or clique or faction to make him Mayor; and he will have no entangling political or corporate or socialist or I. W. W. alliances to embarrass him after he shall be Mayor.

Mr. Albee will, if elected, serve four years. It is a long time. Portland ought not to make a mistake.

YOUR SECOND OR THIRD CHOICE

I think the spirit of the charter is that every voter should vote three choices, yet, as a matter of fact, the three-choice voting is not made obligatory by the charter.

Admirably stated. It would be absurd, of course, for any citizen to vote as second or third choice for any candidate for Mayor who was not in fact his first choice.

The man who votes, for example, for Albee first choice, Ruslight second choice, and Kellaher third choice, necessarily declares that he believes first best, second better than the third. But the man who thinks Albee ought not to be Mayor, even if Ruslight cannot be, or Kellaher cannot be, should not vote for him.

PREDICTING THE FUTURE

H. G. Wells, the philosophical novelist, who is always charming and often wise, has favored the world with a new speculation. "Why is it not possible," he inquires, "to apply the laws of cause and effect to the fore-knowledge of the future as well as to the recovery of the past?"

SOME POSSIBLE PAGEANTRY

The practice of exhibiting "pageants" in New England towns has now become so widespread that it is said a traveler may spend a month in this Summer and see a pageant in almost every town.

Attention is again called to the danger of germs in old paper money. We're willing to assume any amount of danger. Sir Thomas Lipton feels already that he has won the race. Anticipation may prove his only joy in the matter.

might have another scene showing how Joe Meek and his friends carried the vote for the provisional government. The surroundings were romantic to the last degree and the moment was as dramatic as anything in history.

SAYS THE BUFFALO EXPRESS

Lincoln Beachey, the most daring of flying men, is leaving the game because he realizes, as do other aviators, that a crowd would read him into trying some fatal feat.

Mr. Beachey evidently draws a distinction between flying subject to the unavoidable risks of the air and doing reckless stunts that involve reckless taking of avoidable risks.

MODERN BABY SHOWS

The Woman's Home Companion, which makes something of a hobby of better babies, publishes an entertaining disquisition on that attractive theme in its June number.

The late Chuck Connor, the Chinatown tough, was not great, but he was picturesque, hence the long obituaries published by New York newspapers.

What a big town Roseburg "must be getting to be." Two rivals for the queenship of the Strawberry Festival received 25,251 votes between them, which, by the usual rule of one vote to five inhabitants, gives a population of 1,261,265.

Barbara Fritchler's work is o'er and the rebel rides on his ralls no more, but her soul goes marching on, and full girls who could get so many votes.

DISCONTENT AMONG THE 'COMMONS'

Writer Denies That It Can Be Traced to School Training Inequalities. PHILM, Or., May 18.—(To the Editor.)—A letter in the Oregonian May 17 is remarkable chiefly for the economic conditions it hints at but fails to analyze.

There are three reasons for this dissatisfaction, and we state them briefly in their natural order. The first cause is common labor in the principal cause of complaint.

The second cause, as has already been intimated, is the high cost of living, there being no immediate hope of relief.

The third cause is the long hours constituting a day's labor, leaving little time for rest or recreation.

At last vengeance has overtaken our villain, a dog poisoner in St. Johns. Many will think the punishment too light, as it does not include hanging.

Having provided ample moisture for a bumper rose crop, the weather will now provide the necessary sunshine to develop a few billion blooms.

What Mayor Ruslight thinks of Senator Kellaher would make an interesting reading as what Kellaher says he thinks of Ruslight, no doubt.

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King Peter wants to abdicate. The King business is growing more and more tiresome and unpleasant every day.

London militants are forming argon squads. Straight jackets for women is the slogan they should adopt.

Negotiations with Japan will be conducted with extreme caution until some one steps on a match.

The most important foreign news to be expected is that the Kaiser has kissed King George.

Publicity. That is the solution of the problem of eliminating the unit from local politics.

While Tokio is having brain storms we are still concentrating on the baseball scores.

The Cincinnati car strike burned itself out with intense violence.

Still, who could those Japs the land? Too much Johnson.

SEX EQUALITY IN MAN-MADE LAW

That Male Is Natural Protector Proved In Primitive Life

PORTLAND, May 18.—(To the Editor.)—It is well evident from the embittered expressions of R. G. McFarlane, in regard to the "unfair advantage taken of man by our man-made laws" that he has not attained full growth in the knowledge of the workings of our universe.

Compare our lady and gentleman of means who have leisure for whatso-ever they may choose. For instance, let us consider the butterfly of fashion.

The result of all this was naturally did become sort of loving pets, sweet little things, and always high marks. Those who were pro-bro-therly were constantly in trouble with the ladylike pedagogues of both sexes.

Several of us entered active life together. I remember we suffered for our idealistic education. Some of them were sour and as yet, are pessimists, unsatisfied folks.

They are fitted for soft, delicate, and sentimental classes, where art and philosophy are usual, but owing to lack of vocational training they are forever sentenced to idleness.

Life is short. Most of us, have to work. How to work is a very important thing. With the money earned in a calling which is pleasing to the follower the things of life can be purchased.

Who does blame any right living, intelligent young man, or old one, either, for chafing under laws which unfairly include him with the guilty ones?

Men made these laws. They know. Let us respect them, and if our brave misanthropes, would let our laws, let him go back to Edinburgh, where he would be able to abide by them.

WRITER DENIES THAT IT CAN BE TRACED TO SCHOOL TRAINING INEQUALITIES

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TRAGEDY OF FANCY EDUCATION

It Leaves Students Wholly Unfitted for Life, Charges Mr. McNulty

PORTLAND, May 20.—(To the Editor.)—The discussion in the Oregonian relating to whether vocations should be taught in public schools or not are useful. I note Mr. Mitty's ideas and this morning those of "B. M." Mr. Mitty's opinion is correct in that we cannot squeeze the world into the schoolroom.

However, as to B. M.'s idea of leaving the child to find his own way in the picking up of vocational training I cannot agree. This has been the policy in education for a half century.

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Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of May 21, 1888.

Mrs. Grant received \$41,000 for her share in the profits of General Grant's memoirs, of which 310,000 sets have been sold.

The general committee of the Grand Army of the Republic, having in charge the arrangements for the memorial celebration, met yesterday afternoon in the G. A. R. Hall, corner of First and Taylor streets.

Mr. J. W. Ogilvie, the real estate agent, has returned from a trip to Iowa, his native state.

Last Sunday Mr. I. G. Pfunder, the florist, treated his children and a few invited guests to a May day party, it being the anniversary of the birthday of two of his daughters.

The headquarters of the Oregon Democrats in St. Louis during the National convention will be in the Laclede Hotel, 1001 Broadway, St. Louis.

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Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of May 21, 1863.

Some half dozen or more of the penitentiary convicts made a dash yesterday away from the guard, and two of them succeeded in making their escape.

We understand that there is a rumor in circulation among the people of the Upper Willamette Valley to the effect that the construction of a canal to the coast is being abandoned.

Washington, May 15.—The President received from headquarters, Army of the Potomac, an original letter of Gen. Klippel, John F. Miller, James K. Kelly, M. S. Hellman and N. Davis, will leave for St. Louis on the 28th.

Yesterday afternoon was the occasion of quite a lively turnout of our boys and citizens generally to get the return of Columbian Engine Company No. 3 and invited guests, who had been on a friendly visit to Dallas City.

The lecture of Prof. Buel, the famous American horse-lane yesterday, was interesting and instructive. Another lecture and instruction will be given by the professor this afternoon at Sherlock & Bacon's livery stable.

RAILROAD BRIDGE BUILT ON ICE

Engineers Accomplish Unusual Feat in Copper River Valley, Alaska

"Alaska, an Empire in the Making," by the late John J. Underwood, is a book of interest to all who are interested in the development of the Northwest.

Along the Copper River Valley lies a standard-gauge railroad, 191 miles in length, the building of which was filled with romance and adventure.

The false work for the bridge was laid on the ice in Winter. Men were hired to work night and day. M. J. Honey, the contractor, the man who carried out the "impossible" road across the mountains from Skagway, and his chief engineer, E. C. Hawkins, conceived the idea of using the river ice for the bridge scaffolding.

As the spring approached hundreds of men were kept busy every minute of the day and night, for, if the work and material would have been lost.

The ice went out, carrying the false-work with it, less than an hour after the spike was driven in the connecting span and the bridge was completed. The bridge cost \$1,400,000.

Aeroplanes of the Future

Life.

"Well, Jones, this is a great improvement over the old-fashioned automobile." "Oh, I don't know, it's a bit more expensive, but it's a lot more fun going as fast as you like, no old woman waiting for you round the bend in the road, no stray cows, chickens, and so on." "Unless you fall and break your own neck."

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More Communities Should Advertise

A current newspaper paragraph informs us that \$32,000 was spent by the Atlanta, Ga., Chamber of Commerce last year in advertising that city to the world. Every dollar spent, according to the report filed, made a fine showing.

There is food for thought in this. Municipalities everywhere could advertise with great advantage to themselves. In many sections "booster clubs" are even now doing fine work, but the number of communities that would profit handsomely by waging the right kind of advertising campaigns are legion.

It is just as appropriate for a town or city to advertise its attractions and commercial advantages as it is for a merchant to tell the people about his business.

There are many fine cities in the United States that are known to hundreds of thousands of people, but only by name. The Nation should know more about these municipalities, more about their natural advantages and resources, more why capital should locate there.

And there is no better way than by using the newspapers.