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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1913.

PORTLAND'S GOOD FORTUNE.

Mr. Albee as Mayor will have the co-operation of four first-class men as Commissioners. Mr. Daly has had experience in public affairs, and he is fair-minded, thoughtful and capable. The immediate sympathies of Mr. Daly are with the labor interest; but it is a fact that his real worth and his sturdy impartiality are so widely recognized by all classes that he has the general confidence; and it is not surprising that he received a larger vote than any other candidate for Commissioner.

Mr. Dieck is a trained administrator of public works and is an educated engineer. Mr. Bigelow is a successful business man. Mr. Brewster is a lawyer of standing, and he has besides performed much meritorious public service.

Mayor-elect Albee has been prominent as a life insurance manager.

The new Portland Commission will therefore be made up of two business men, a lawyer, an engineer and a labor man. It has thus a variety of talent, interest and experience that promises well for all branches of municipal government. The fitness of some of the Commissioners to certain lines of employment will be immediately obvious; and the adaptability of others to the tasks to be imposed on them will also be generally recognized. It is proper to say that Portland has immense satisfaction with the personnel of the board, and it has as well high expectations as to its usefulness and efficiency.

It is axiomatic that any government is as good, or as bad, as the men who direct it; and it is particularly true that a commission government will succeed, or fail, as the Commissioners are fit or unfit. The city has made a bold experiment in placing with five men the entire control of the municipality, and the first crisis—the election of capable men—has been safely passed.

The preferential system has achieved the election of four suitable Commissioners, and it has brought about the defeat of the unspeakable Clyde. He is among the first four on first-choice votes, and in an election where pluralities prevail he would have succeeded.

Mr. Albee and the Commissioners have a large job. They are embarrassed by no party obligations or class ties and, so far as we know, by no personal pledges. They have heavy duties, but they have been given the authority to perform them. They are faced by many grave problems, but they are backed by a public belief in their ability to solve them.

TWO VIEWS OF DRUNKENNESS.

The old Kentucky view of indulgence in alcoholic liquors is well expressed in the Louisville Courier-Journal's discussion of Colonel Roosevelt's successful effort to clear himself from the charge of being a drunkard. The Kentucky Colonel regards as much ado about nothing the New York Colonel's seeking to fix by legal inquiry the limits of his drinking habits. He holds the question whether Colonel Roosevelt drinks "in a sense to be nobody's business but his own." He doubts whether the ex-President's denials will impress the hostile and holds that Mr. Roosevelt "makes himself a little absurd by the effort to prove that he is not a drunkard," as he holds Mr. Bryan to do "by the pains he takes to prove himself a total abstainer." Says the Courier-Journal of Mr. Roosevelt: "It goes without saying that he is not a drunkard," adding: "His whole life gives the lie to his accusers." "But," it continues, "the charge itself is of the kind which may be described as unimportant, if true."

Colonel Watterson recalls Lincoln's wish that he might send to his other Generals a few barrels of the brand of whisky on which General Grant was said to get drunk. He recalls the cocktail joke on Vice-President Fairbanks, saying that, though the joke was cruel, no serious consequences followed. He declares the simple truth to be that "the use of intoxicants hinges altogether upon the abuse of them."

In conclusion, Colonel Watterson pens this glowing eulogism on Colonel Roosevelt in support of his contention that the vindication of the latter's sobriety was superfluous:

> Surely a man who has lived in the world three and fifty years—in the limelight thirty of them—the head of a happy and prosperous household—a good husband and father, a prodigiously hard worker—could afford to let tongues wag as they will about his exits and his entrances, his food and his drink, and his intimate personality.

The Kentucky Colonel's view is the old, tolerant view of occasional alcoholic excess on the part of ordinarily right-living men. In former days it was a matter of course that a banquet should end in at least a mild debauch and drinking was considered an essential part of all merrymaking. The time has passed when that view is generally taken. A man who gets drunk, even occasionally, is looked upon askance and one who drinks habitually in moderation is by many held to impair his efficiency. Consciousness of this change in public opinion on the subject of use and abuse of stimulants was doubtless behind Colonel Roosevelt's desire to vindicate his reputation for sobriety. Another cause of his action was doubtless that impatience of criticism which is peculiar to men who are unsparing in their criticism of others. His intemperance in speech and manner bred suspicion in many minds that he was intemperate in other respects. There was need to clear himself of such a suspicion, which would not exist with more moderate, self-restrained men, though the latter may be more prone than he to alcoholic excess.

Colonel Watterson thinks Colonel Roosevelt made much ado about nothing because he holds to the old view that drunkenness is a mere peccadillo unless it leads directly to crime or vice. Colonel Roosevelt takes the more modern view that drunkenness is in itself a vice which lowers a man seriously in public esteem.

TWO SMALL OBSERVATIONS.

We have no ill will toward Mr. Kellaher and his common-user propaganda; and we suppose his itch for office is incurable, but it will do no harm to express our happiness in feeling that it will be another year or two before he can run again. Yet there is a vacant School Directorship this month.

We are overflowing with charity toward our bewildered friend, the Daily Journal; for just now it must know how the Honorable George C. Brownell, statesman and band-wagon expert, felt some years ago when he made his last grand leap for the Senatorial band-wagon and missed. He hasn't been the same man since.

KEEPING OUT THE FOREIGNER.

Wool in Oregon is from two to three cents lower than it was a year ago.

Wool in London and other foreign markets is from two to three cents higher than it was a year ago.

If anyone can explain the phenomenon on any basis except that it is due to the Underwood bill and the free wool agitation, The Oregonian will ask the expositor to hold up his hand.

The grand Congressional ride in the free trade toboggan goes magnificently on. The House put on the free list wool, flour, lumber and a lot of other things in which Oregon is interested; now the Senate purposes to fry all the remaining fat out of the poor producer by making duty-free wheat, cattle, hogs and sheep. It is a free country, to be made commercially free also to the Canadians and the Mexicans and all the rest.

THE END OF AN ANCIENT BUSINESS.

The Independent sees at least one "blessed result" of giving women the ballot. No doubt others just as desirable will manifest themselves in the course of time, but this already forces itself upon the attention. It is the abandonment of weak compromises with the "social evil." While men ruled the world their attitude toward this vile business was two-faced and cowardly. They called it "the oldest of the professions," which it is not. There were honest wives before there were prostitutes, and men made their living by hunting and farming before any of them became purveyors of vice.

But even if it were the oldest of the professions, that would not be an excuse for tolerating it any longer than we must. Age does not always make a profession honorable. It is fairly certain that with the increasing power of women prostitution will have to disappear from the cities of the world. The unhappy creatures who earn their living by it will be obliged to seek some other occupation, and the men who patronize them will be deprived of their bestial opportunities.

The good women of the country are opening refuges for the fallen sisters. None have thus far been opened for the fallen brothers, but in time this defect will be remedied perhaps. Some provision will be made for the victims of man's unholy lust, and the business which has fed upon it for so many centuries will disappear from the earth. Good riddance to it. The era of human sacrifice ought to have ended long ago.

WHAT THE WEST NEEDS.

No part of the new currency bill which is to be presented to Congress will need closer inspection than that relating to the National discount rate. This rate in other countries regulates the flow of money into circulation or into the banks. When stocks of money in the banks are low and great demands are being made for speculative or other operations which bankers consider dangerous, the rate of discount is raised, the outflow of money is checked, reserves are strengthened and speculation is cooled with a dash of ice water in its face. When money accumulates, business becomes inactive and men are too slow to take up new and meritorious enterprises, the discount rate is reduced and the outflow is quickened, business is stimulated and new undertakings are encouraged.

In European countries there is one discount rate for the whole nation. This could not be in the United States unless the proposed regional reserve associations were combined under one head vested with the power of fixing the rate from time to time. The Democrats seem to shrink from creating a central body because of their traditional aversion for a central bank and for centralization in general. Yet if they create fifteen independent reserve associations, as has been suggested, each with power to fix a discount rate, we might have fifteen such rates. The present wide variation of interest rates in different sections of the country would then continue, though it is mainly an artificial product of our unscientific banking system. Commercial paper of the same class has the same value, whether issued in East or West, yet the West has always been compelled to pay higher interest rates.

Any new currency system should, in its effects, equalize the volume of money in each section of the country in proportion to needs of legitimate business, and should equalize interest rates. This can best be done by a central body having control of reserves, rediscounts and perhaps of currency issue. The West has suffered most from the evils of our present unscientific currency system, for that system has drained money from the West to Eastern centers and has compelled the West to pay high interest. Western men in Congress will serve the interests of this section if they bend their efforts toward a degree of central control sufficient to secure uniform interest rates and a fairer distribution of the money supply.

BOOKKEEPING BY MACHINERY.

When it was told in the backwoods that McCormick had invented a mowing machine, the old farmers were incredulous. How could a machine imitate the motion of a scythe? It could not, but that did not justify the farmers' lack of faith, for it did not need to. The motion of a mowing machine's sickle is totally unlike the swing of a farmer's scythe, and yet it does the same work faster and better. Thus man's intelligence improves upon crude and awkward nature.

What emotion do most people feel when they see the queer animals at the circus, the hippopotamus with its misshapen frame, the pathetic elephant, the deplorable monkeys? Is it not pity that nature should have made such failures and left them to disfigure the world? Man does almost everything he undertakes better than nature. And he does his own work better and better every year. This is the meaning of progress, more work in less time and with less cost of pain. The sorrowful old bookkeeper of Dickens' stories laboriously wrote down his entries with a quill pen and added up mighty arrays of figures by sheer force of mental muscle. He had no labor-saving devices and he took pride in wanting none. Some expert accountants were the worst foes of the adding machine and the typewriter.

Now bookkeeping is done by machinery and its scope has been enlarged in astonishing ways. The Saturday Evening Post has an article telling what a truly modern bookkeeper expects to do for his employers. He has many employers because he works by wholesale methods and can serve a hundred as well as one. "He performs creative and constructive services," we are told. Consider the task of tabulating the bills for an electric company's customers. It is done by punching a set of holes in cards, each hole signifying a fact or figure. The cards are then run through a complicated machine which arranges the facts, puts the figures in columns and adds them up, and finally presents the officers of the company with a beautiful set of totals. The new bookkeeper is master, not of a quill pen and inkstand, but of one of the most ingenious pieces of machinery in the world.

THE CAUSE OF GRAVITATION.

Last Wednesday The Oregonian published a letter on the subject of gravitation and the constitution of matter which must have struck many readers as being exceptionally scholarly. No doubt the writer, F. G. Franklin, of Albany, has devoted much time to studying the principles involved and he certainly expresses his views with enviable clearness. He does not, of course, offer any modification of Newton's law of universal gravitation. That law is a simple deduction from common experience and as far as we can ascertain it extends throughout the material universe, applying to all matter wherever it is situated. The force by which each particle of matter attracts every other varies inversely as the square of the distance and directly as the quantity of matter in question. If the quantity of matter in the particle is doubled its attractive force is doubled and so on. But if the distance between two particles is doubled the attractive force is divided by four, which is the square of two. If the distance is increased three times the force is divided by nine, which is the square of three, and the same law holds for all distances and masses.

The correspondent does not try to revise this law at all. He simply offers an explanation of it, something that has been done many times before and never with much success. When Lord Kelvin developed the old theory of vortices he believed that it might be made to yield an explanation of gravity but he never worked the question out satisfactorily. It was the French philosopher Descartes who relied upon vortices to explain the physical universe. He had seen how a whirlpool seems to draw floating bodies to its center and surmised that some force of the same nature might account for the attraction between the planets. If they are all whirling around in vortices no doubt they ought to be drawn toward one another and toward a common center. Perhaps it was from this theory that the notion of a common center for the universe derived some of its popular persistence. We all like to imagine that the suns with their trains of attendant planets are sweeping to the same goal far off in the depths of space, where possibly the ruler of the universe holds his court.

Another philosopher accounts for the attraction of gravity by supposing that myriads of little particles are flying through space in all possible directions. Naturally each piece of matter is bombarded by them, and if it is remote from every other body it is bombarded with equal energy on all sides, so that no moving force results. But if it is near any other body each is then screened on the face it presents to the other and they are driven together. This is a very pretty theory. All it needs for proof is the drift of particles through space with their bombarding energy. The theory that our Albany correspondent presents depends upon the ether which is supposed to be a substance composed of infinitesimal grains, solid and indivisible. They are many times as small as the old-fashioned atoms we used to learn about in chemistry. The latter have been resolved into electrons and the electrons themselves are now subdivided into little grains so minute that it is useless to try to imagine how they would look if we could see them. But they are probably spheres and can thus be piled very compactly. In the normal ether they are piled as closely as possible, but sometimes they become disarranged. When that happens the equilibrium of the ether is naturally disturbed. When not disturbed the ether is subject to a stress which is equal in all directions and which therefore sets up no motion. But if we imagine a spot where the stress is diminished, the resistance to the universal pressure will there be broken up and that particular spot will be pushed about. It will continue to be pushed as long as it presents a volume under diminished stress. If we now agree that when a spot of diminished stress is once established, it will persist forever, we have all that is necessary for the concept of matter, namely, mass and motion and indefinite existence.

Mr. Franklin, quoting from some eminent scientific men, defines matter about in that way. It consists of spots in space where the stress of the ether is for some reason less than elsewhere. This curiously inverts our established notions. Instead of believing that ether is empty nothingness and matter dense we must try to believe that matter is comparatively rare, while ether is the densest thing in existence. Thus far the new theory simply accounts for motion. It leaves the law of gravity hanging in the air, but as soon as we imagine two masses of matter within reasonable distance of each other they begin to react. Each modifies the stresses on the other so that they are thrust together. From this point of view, as the correspondent says, gravitation is not a pull, but a push. This brings us back to the old notion of the drift of particles which we spoke of a moment ago. By that hypothesis also gravity was reduced to a push on each of the attracting bodies. The discerning reader will not attach too much importance to speculations of this kind. However wise they may appear, they are really almost as insubstantial as words. Science is making most encouraging sallies toward the ultimate mysteries, but it has not yet conquered them by any means. The atomic theory which was taught in the colleges twenty-five years ago is no longer tenable, but when it comes to devising another to take its place it is well to be cautious. We need not remark that Mr. Franklin really presents the old theory in a new dress. His atoms are smaller than Dalton's. That makes about all the difference.

Governor Baldwin, of Connecticut, having learned that the Legislature proposed to turn back the hands of the clock on the last day of the session until it had finished its business, told the Lieutenant-Governor and the Speaker that the constitution must be observed and that there must be no juggling with the clock. A controversy arose about setting back the clock in the Montana Legislature some years ago, and one member settled it by throwing an ink well at the timepiece with such good aim as to smash its works beyond repair. Perhaps some Nutmeg State solon will adopt the same means of evading the constitution.

The British Parliamentary system wins new favor in this country every day. Its latest important advocate is Henry L. Stimson, late Secretary of War. He believes the ordinary legislator is a pretty decent sort of man made ineffective by a bad system. His plan is to adopt the "responsible cabinet" which has worked so well in England. The executive would prepare the budget and propose legislation and go out of office when it failed to command a majority in the legislature. It will be interesting to see how far we shall go in this direction.

Students in the department of business ethics of the school of commerce of New York University were asked in an examination: "How should a newspaper be managed to conform to the requirements of ethics? Name your favorite newspaper and give your reasons for preferring it." Almost all the students named the Springfield Republican as being "ethically the nearest to the ideal newspaper." This will provoke loud jeers from the yellows, which know ethics only to shun them, but the staid old Republican will continue more confidently on its well-marked course.

It is nonsense to explain the low price Mrs. Lincoln's letters brought at the recent New York auction by their "bitterness." That had nothing to do with their value to collectors and Martha Washington's "womanly sweetness" did not add a penny to the price of hers. Bitterness has just as good a market as sweetness with collectors. They care not a fig what a letter is about. Martha Washington is a larger historic figure than Mrs. Lincoln, more romantic and interesting. Hence her letters are worth more and would be if they were full of spite.

How does Senor de la Barra keep his head on his shoulders through all the turmoil in Mexico? He bobs up in every ministry of every ephemeral president, like Talleyrand during the French revolution. He is a most adaptable man, but even he has grown fearful and will go abroad before Huerta puts a knife in him.

Massachusetts towns are having an epidemic of centennials, sesquicentennials and bicentennials. Greatest of these is at Lexington, where the first shot was fired for independence. Hardly a state lacks a town named after the original Lexington and they might well celebrate the day observed by their name—mother.

The late George F. Robertson typified the positive force of kindness and unswerving fidelity to duty. Coming to Portland a young man in the active times of the early '90s, he made and maintained an honored place for himself in business and fraternal circles. His life was an inspiration.

North Battleford, Saskatchewan, is growing so fast that it could not house its people, so the city built a municipal apartment-house of fifty rooms. Within forty days it was finished and fully tenanted, a paying investment of $20,000. What will be the next experiment in municipal ownership?

Barbur is not a politician. People think an unwritten section of the civil service law should keep in office a man whose talent fits him for the position.

When the millers succeed in making a self-raising flour, the 1 per cent of the hop crop now wasted in yeast will be diverted to its legitimate end.

The headline writers are pleased with the result, too, for Albee, Daly, Dieck, Bigelow and Brewster all are short names.

A despondent cook took the easiest way out of Seattle yesterday by leaping from an eight-story building.

The people believed Will Daly honest to the core, as well as aggressive and fearless. That's the answer.

One militant suffragette was put out of business yesterday. The others are not so fortunate.

Many men who never had a wedding present helped to make that $20,000 which multi-millionaire Busch gave to his granddaughter.

Illinois societies are unable to supply the demand for children to be adopted. Why not interest the stork?

The laziest man in the world has been located in Kansas City. Not in politics, either.

Crop increases in prospect throughout the Northwest! Prosperity will not down.

Anyway you should be thankful you weren't elected judge of the baby show.

No. 13 was a hoodoo after all. Yet 13 is lucky for some men.

But it appears that the stay-at-home vote didn't stay at home.

The real politician began a new campaign yesterday.

Good citizenship has taken its place at the helm.

Stock on the free list may bring meat down out of the clouds, anyway.

If any showers are in the wind, let them come this week.

Nothing niggardly about that Albee plurality.

Cholera morbus days draw nigh.

Stars and Starmakers

By Leone Cass Baer.

William Bernard and Mrs. Bernard, who professionally is Nan Ramsey, leave the Baker Company at the conclusion of the present week's bill of "The Wolf." Henry Hall, who is the new leading man, is director too of the plays he presents. In "The Man From Home" Mary Edgett will have the leading feminine role, that of Ethel Granger-Simpson. Returning to the Bernards, they will visit in Portland with friends for one week when they leave for Vancouver, B. C., where Mr. Bernard will direct another stock company.

* * *

While in Los Angeles Wilton Lackaye purchased nine lots, comprising 202 feet of frontage on the west side of Van Ness avenue, 255 feet on the north side of Temple street and 202 feet on the east side of Norton avenue, for a given consideration of $20,000. The purchaser, it is announced, will resell a portion of the property, retaining only as much as he will require for a home site. I bet he does not live there at all. He told me he wouldn't give 10 cents to live anywhere outside of New York, unless it was abroad.

* * *

Robert Wayne, accompanied by Mrs. Wayne and their small daughter Mondas, leave Portland next Sunday afternoon for Denver, where Mr. Wayne will be heavy man with the Lakeside stock. James Durkin is leading man and later in the season Maude Fealy will play leads. Just now Nance O'Neil has that position.

* * *

Alice Patek is in Denver, her home town. She may join the Elitch Garden stock this Summer.

* * *

San Francisco is to have a hippodrome built on the lines of New York's great amphitheater. John Cort, is authority for the statement.

"I have been commissioned by the Messrs. Shubert," said Cort this week, "to secure a good location for this vast project which should mean a great deal to San Francisco and which will no doubt be the biggest amusement enterprise in connection with the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

"Some idea of the magnitude of the project may be understood when you realize that over 600 people, performers and stage-hands, are required in the putting on of these entertainments. A great tank will also be constructed for the famous plunging horses and elephants.

* * *

Margaret Anglin announces that she has accepted an invitation from the University of California to again appear in the Greek Theater. The event will take place about the end of August, when Miss Anglin will present "The Medea of Euripides." Miss Anglin's previous performance in the Greek Theater was two years ago when she played the title character in the Antigone of Sophocles, which attracted widespread interest and the highest critical praise. Immediately following the university performance, Miss Anglin will begin her regular season in San Francisco, in a production of Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra."

* * *

Nat Goodwin seems to be in quite venturesome mood these days. He has taken over the Bristol Pier at Ocean Park, where hereafter the sign will read, "The Nat Goodwin Pier." On June 14 a very formal ball and dinner will open the cafe, and this will be an invitation affair. Mr. Goodwin promises a very pretentious sort of resort, basing his ideas on the Cafe des Beaux Arts in New York. This is Mrs. Marjorie Moreland's idea. Nat declares that she is to be not only "the coming American actress," but the "cleverest woman in the world." "She has the bump for business so finely developed that I have made her a partner in everything, as well as owner of all my worldly goods. What she says goes. I bank more on her judgment than I do on any lawyer. She's the greatest woman I know."

* * *

Edward Barnes and Mabel Robinson (Mr. and Mrs. Barnes), musical comedy entertainers at the Empress, are old-time friends of Mr. and Mrs. George Coover, of this city, and in their vaudeville engagement here they are the guests of the Coovers, at 1177 East Flanders street in Ledgewood Heights. Another friend of Mrs. Barnes' in Portland is Mrs. James Hart, of 230 Tenth street, who before her marriage was known in the stage world as Blanche Trojan. Several years ago Barnes appeared in Portland as the leading baritone of the San Francisco Opera Company and Mabel Robinson has paid several visits to Portland with T. Daniel Frawley and Ferris Hartmen. The vaudeville duo has appeared in Portland every season for the past six years. Mabel Robinson makes the boast that she is the youngest grandmother on the American stage. She is 34.

* * *

Ada Dwyer will take a Salt Lake City playhouse for a month this Summer and present four of the plays with which she has recently been associated. These will include the Deep Purple. The experiment in her home town, in which she is a popular idol, will be distinguished by the stage debut of her Junoesque, 17-year-old daughter, Lorna Doone Russell.

* * *

Two men on the Orpheum bill thank Portland for their first steps up. One is Page Spencer, with "Handkerchief No. 15," a San Francisco boy who was brought to Portland about ten years ago by Louis Mothersole and Fred Cooper with a stock company at the old Baker on Third street. After eight weeks it went broke and Harry Corson Clarke, who was playing in Seattle and had fallen out with several members of his company, heard of the fiasco and at once engaged Mr. Spencer, Georgie Cooper and Mr. Norfleet to go north and play in "What Happened to Jones." That engagement took Mr. Spencer east. He played a year with James K. Hackett in repertoire and four years with David Higgins in "His Last Dollar," which was seen at the Bungalow three years ago.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hickman (Bessie Barriscale) have closed with "The Bird of Paradise," and are now in San Jose visiting Mr. Hickman's parents. Next season these two California actors will not be with the Richard Walton Tully play, but will appear in a new play by Mrs. Tully (Eleanor Gates) who has to her credit the present great New York success, "The Poor Little Rich Girl." In the new play Miss Barriscale will create the leading role. Following the season of Leo Ditrichstein at the Alcazar, Miss Barriscale will be featured for a short season.

* * *

This from the Dramatic Review: "Franklyn Underwood has ambitions to be an actor-manager, and he is constantly looking around for the opportunity to take a chance. He is one of the leading members of the Affiliated Amusement Company that is inaugurating a season of tabloid music over the coast territory, opening at Santa Rosa on June 1. Later on in the season, Mr. Underwood may have a chance to manage his own stock in Denver."

* * *

Marie Baker, who was a Baker player for awhile last season, is convalescent after a severe illness in San Francisco.

Made-in-Ten-Minutes Lunch.

Cleveland Leader.

Mr. Jawback—Gee whiz! You've been monkeying around the kitchen for three hours. What are you doing? Mrs. Jawback—Getting up one of these "made-in-ten-minutes" lunches I read about on the woman's page of this magazine.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of June 5, 1863.

The Mountaineer says: Lieutenant Elliott, the officer who has had charge of the construction of the harbor defenses of San Francisco, is under orders to repair to the mouth of the Columbia and superintend the erection of forts on either side of the river.

Union League in Butteville—The citizens of this village and vicinity assembled on Saturday, May 30, and having raised a flagstaff 75 feet high, the meeting was called to order and a pledge of loyalty to the Government was read and subscribed by more than 70 of the voters of the precinct. John W. Grim, president; M. M. McKean, secretary.

From Walla Walla—Major Truax has been ordered to Lapwai, probably to take command of the post there. It is thought that Colonel Steinberger will be returned to the command of fort Walla Walla. Captain Mason's company of Washington Territory infantry has been ordered out on the old emigrant road across the Blue Mountains to repair the road for the Government teams bound for the new post at Boise.

The Salt Lake News of May 13 gives an account of the breaking out of an Indian war in Idaho Territory. A messenger had arrived from that territory with a petition to General Connor from the whites asking for military protection. Rumor says that the killing of one of the Indian chiefs by a white man made the red men mad, who in turn killed a company of 24 white men, who were out hunting after stock, whereupon the whites killed 17 Indians who were in Bannock City.

New York, May 30.—A Washington letter says that a balloon reconnoissance shows that the rebels are massing their troops near Chancellorsville and making preparations as though they expected to cross at United States ford. Hooker is preparing for every emergency.

On Wednesday evening an ordinance was introduced in the Council appropriating $700 for use in celebrating the coming Fourth of July.

John Wood, the comedian, whom many of this city remember, died at Victoria recently.

GOOD ROADS OF UTMOST VALUE

They Play Important Part in Life of Country, Says Banker.

The following pertinent statement concerning good roads and their value to the community was included in a recent address by Sir Edmund Walker, president of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, at Toronto:

One of the most powerful and inexcusable local causes for the high price of food is the condition of our country roads. It must be clear that if a farmer has to travel 10 or 20 miles to a city to sell his produce, every hour of delay to himself and his horses and wagon, every bushel or pound less he is able to carry, every day lost in the length of the life of his horses and wagon, cause just so much increase in the cost of the article he has to sell. To the extent that this needless and cruel loss might, if avoided, partly add to the farmers' profits and partly lessen the cost to the consumer, the state of our roads is little short of a crime. If the bad roads around a city cause the price of food to be much higher than it need be, one of the results is to enable producers hundreds, perhaps thousands, of miles away to enter into competition with the farmer in his own county, because the cost in transit over one mile of bad wagon road will cover the cost over many miles of good railroad. This competition may help the consumer by keeping prices from rising still higher, but it will not bring the price below the point fixed by the extra cost from the bad local roads. It will not do any good for those of us who live in well-paved cities to blame the farmers for bad roads. They cannot be expected to build good roads entirely at their own expense, and good roads will not come so long as we wait for anything as unfair as this. It is not that we do not know how to construct good roads. We know fairly well what we should do, but we hesitate to do it. In the excellent report on Highway Improvements in Ontario for 1911 there is a sufficient abstract of the systems adopted by the various countries of the world and by 33 states in the United States; of these, that in use in the State of New York seems to be the most complete. Under this system roads are classified as follows:

First—State roads built at the entire cost of the state.

Second—County roads to which the state contributes one-half, the county 35 per cent, and the township 15 per cent. For maintenance the state collects from the townships $50 per mile per annum, the remainder being contributed by the state.

Third—Township roads, to which the state contributes one-third of the cost of construction.

Can the people of Canada be made to realize that every man, woman and child suffers from the evil of bad roads whether they use the roads directly or not? Have we not as much intelligence as the citizens of these 33 neighboring states?

BEST MEN WON OUT IN RACE.

Publicity Played Part in Eliminating Unfit, Says Mr. Lathrop.

PORTLAND, June 4.—(To the Editor.)—Not a single undesirable got into office. At least that is my opinion as I look over the list of survivors of the municipal campaign just ended. However, what I want to say particularly is "There's a reason."

Publicity is what did it. Cold relentless publication of records of the various unfitted candidates certainly had the effect of eliminating them. It is as plain as the nose on your face, and I assume that the editor must have a conspicuous nasal appendage as all literary lights are supposed to have.

I believe that publicity is to be the great public safeguard hereafter. It will usurp the functions of a Moses to lead the voters out of the wilderness of incompetent self-seekers. The man who is unfitted for office, whether the unfitness be mental, moral or physical, will no longer stand any show because the voters will peruse his record and view his achievements.

The truth of what I say is forcibly brought home by the election of Mr. Dieck. Whoever heard of him before in a political way? A month ago the wildest guesser would not have said he had the slightest strength. Yet he won on his record. It was a very formidable record, it was called to the attention of all the voters, and Mr. Dieck finished strong in the race. I think the day has come when we need fear the incompetent man no longer, at least in municipal politics.

MILTON LATHROP.

Eats Supper Left for Dog.

Popular Magazine.

Robert M. Pindell, Jr., chief clerk of the Department of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D. C., seldom gets home in time to eat dinner with his family because the press of his work keeps him at his desk until long after everybody else has left the building. Mrs Pindell always puts his dinner in the warming oven, where he finds it when he arrives.

One night he reached home after the family had gone to bed and found his lunch on top of the stove. Next morning his wife opened the oven and discovered that the food she had left for him had not been touched.

"Why, Robert, didn't you eat your supper last night?" she asked.

"My dear," he replied, "I did, and enjoyed it very much, but you made a mistake and left it on top of the stove."

"God heavens!" she cried, "That was the dog's supper."

A Post Election Wish

By Dean Collins.

The tumult and the shouting dies,
And with expressions deferential,
On the elect we turn our eyes,
Who triumphed through the preferential.

On the light tom-tom shall I beat
And prophesy the things that shall be,
Since the old system met defeat
And a new leader's found in Albee.

Albee et al. be, in my mind,
Now that the old regime is busted,
As good a bunch as one might find
To whom the city may be trusted.

Yet while all others raise a cheer
And the glad hand unto them proffer,
Condolence I give them here,
Albeit I am not a scoffer.

High is the place they occupy,
And high their worth who occupy it,
But there is something—with a sigh
In the near future I espy it.

Soon 'gainst that gallant Five, the mob
Shall hurl itself, and keep them humping,
Dodging the seekers of the job
Who at their heels will all be jumping.

Oh, gallant Five, in your new task
I do expect to see you do much,
So from the Fates one boon I ask:
"Don't let pie hunters plague them too much."

Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of June 5, 1888.

Washington, June 4.—Senator Dolph, from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill for the relief of the citizens of the State of Oregon and the territories of Idaho and Washington who served with the United States troops in the war against the Nez Perces and Bannocks and Shoshone Indians, and for the relief of those killed in such service.

Multnomah County—Every Republican on the ticket has a big majority. Hermann beats Gearin over 1500 votes.

Owing to the limited telegraph facilities in Oregon outside of the Willamette Valley, election returns this morning from the distant counties of the state are very meager, yet sufficient has been obtained to show the strong sentiment that has prevailed in favor of Republican principles. The returns given below show that Hermann has been re-elected by at least 2000 majority. Republicans have won victories all along the line, and will have a strong majority in the next Legislature.

At the regular annual meeting of the high school alumni last evening the following officers were elected: President, Rollo Burnham; vice-president, Miss Euphemia Ainslie; secretary, Emma Hildebrand; treasurer, Mrs. Frank Sealy; orator, Miss Bessie Thompson; poet, Miss Maud Allen; historian, David Williams. The president appointed the following committees: On reception, Samuel Connell, Daniel Malarkey, O. F. Paxton, Miss L. Parrish, Miss E. Ainslie; on programme, Ralph Hoyt, Miss Clara Nundt, Miss Libbie Dickinson; on refreshments, George W. Collins, Miss Emma Hildebrand, Mrs. Frank Sealy.

Yesterday evening a number of gentlemen organized the Webfoot Canoe Club. B. J. Bretherton was elected skipper and M. W. Parsons purser.

In addition to C. W. Hansen, T. Harris Bartlett has been appointed immigration agent of the Northern Pacific.

W. R. Stokes, of East Portland, has been awarded the contract to build a hotel at Pendleton for John Gagen.

Mrs. J. A. Ruffner, of Tucson, is visiting her brother, F. W. Bay, in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. King, who went east on their bridal tour some five weeks ago, were at the old home of the former in Luenburg, Vt., on the 25th ult.

ELECTION CAUSES FELICITATION.

Commission Government Will Have Fair Try Under Officials Named.

PORTLAND, June 4.—(To the Editor.)—The outcome of the election is certainly a cause for felicitation and I want to congratulate The Oregonian for the splendid winning fight it made in the interest of good citizenship and better municipal government. Portland is now on the threshold of a new era in which the taxpayers will get at least close to 100 cents in value on the dollar, which has not been the case in the past.

It is apparent that the voters of Portland are no longer asleep and are not permitting weaklings, undesirables and incompetents to creep into public office. The men elected throughout are of clean records and big caliber. The commission form of government will now have an opportunity to try itself under the most favorable surroundings and circumstances. It is in the hands of friends and of competent administrators. H. E. N.

Giving Himself Away.

Judge.

"Here, ma!" requested the boy, hurrying in from school before time, "hang my jacket up behind the stove." "Is it wet?" "No, but teacher sent me home to tell you to warm my jacket for me."

Little Journeys Away From Home

¶ These pleasant Summer days one is naturally tempted to take week-end trips, or little journeys of a day or part of a day.

¶ Just where to go and what to do sometimes forms a puzzling problem.

¶ Some prefer a trip by water; others like land travel best.

¶ Let The Oregonian guide you to the safest and most enjoyable journeys.

¶ Advertisements in The Oregonian point the way to delightful hours.

¶ If you want to take a trip by water the ads tell you where and how.

¶ If you want to make a journey by rail or auto The Oregonian ads give you all the news and information you require.

¶ If it is merely a trip to some near-by pleasure park or resort; if it is a ball game or any other enthusing outdoor sport, well, The Oregonian ads will tell you all about this, too.

¶ It is a pretty good thing to keep in touch with the world and its doings through the ads in The Oregonian.