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H. L. PITTOCK, Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of October, 1913.
(Seal) W. E. HARTMUS, Notary Public.
(My commission expires May 25, 1915.)

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, OCT. 3, 1913.

CAUCUS RULE AND CONSISTENCY.

People proverbially have short memories, but Democratic memories appear to be the shortest of all. The Democrats gained control of the Government largely on the issue of Cannonism—a system by which a committee of the majority party dictates to the caucus and the caucus binds every member of the party to support measures which it approves, but none which it disapproves. But Congress no sooner met in extra session than President Wilson and Representative Underwood framed in secret the skeleton of a tariff bill, the Democratic members of the ways and means committee completed it, also in secret, and the Democratic caucus, also meeting in secret, approved it. As the majority of the caucus voted, every Democratic member of the House was pledged to vote. No amendment which the caucus had not approved had a chance of adoption, no matter how meritorious it might be. The debate in the House had no greater effect on the fate of the bill or on its details than a debating contest between a couple of college teams would have had.

Republicans are estopped by their own adoption of these methods from criticising them, but Democrats are estopped from adopting them by the fact of having condemned them. They will doubtless plead that the caucus is the only practicable means of securing legislation and making the majority party responsible. That was Speaker Cannon's defense. He said repeatedly to the Democrats and their insurgent allies, "the majority must rule," and they denounced him as a Czar, a tyrant and various other kinds of a monster.

President Wilson joined in this denunciation of Cannonism just before his inauguration and by so doing he condemned the methods pursued by himself and Mr. Underwood. In his "New Freedom" he said:

> Congress has become an institution which does its work in the privacy of committee rooms and not on the floor of the chamber; a body that makes laws—legislature; not a body that debates—not a parliament.

And again:

> I don't want a smug lot of experts to sit down behind closed doors in Washington and play Providence to me.

And again:

> I am not even now suggesting corrupt influences. That is not my point. The prosperity of this country depends upon the interests of all of us and cannot be brought about by arrangement between any groups of persons.

And finally:

> The light must be let in upon all processes of lawmaking.

Those Representatives who were elected strictly as Democrats may be able to excuse their conduct at the expense of their consistency by saying that they found caucus rule the only practicable means of securing party unity of action and of accomplishing the purpose of the voters in electing them, but there are some men in the Senate, where the same methods were pursued, who cannot even make this excuse. Senator Chamberlain was elected not as a Democrat, but as a nonpartisan and was pledged to set the interests of his state above his Democratic predilections. Senator Lane, while elected as a Democrat, also pledged himself to put the interests of his state above loyalty to his party. Yet they both went into the Democratic caucus, threw the interests of their state into the pot to be disposed of as the majority decided and pledged themselves to vote as the caucus ruled. By remaining independent of the caucus and refusing to support the bill unless changes were made safeguarding the interests of Oregon, they could have lived up to their promises to their constituents and probably have forced the concessions they demanded. But in violation of their pledge to their state, they took a pledge to the Democratic party which bound them to sacrifice Oregon interests to partisanship.

The Eugene Guard has added another linotype to its equipment, one of the latest model, making four in its plant, the largest number in an Oregon office outside of Portland. The business of a city is indicated by the growth of its newspapers.

FAREWELL TO THE FIRE HORSE.

With the adoption of motor fire engines, the fire horse will pass into history. The loud rattle of the machines and the fiery prancing of the team will soon cease to draw thousands to witness the inspiring spectacle of the engines dashing to a fire. The boy's ambition will be turned from a desire to drive the mettlesome team to that for the chauffeur's seat on the swift and, by comparison, noiseless motor-driven apparatus. The romantic and spectacular must give place to the practical and economical.

The auto fire engine will cover two or three times as much territory as that drawn by horses. It is dependable in all weathers and is less likely to stick in the mud. When not in use, it eats no hay and oats, though in action it burns gasoline like the mischief. It requires no other fuel, however, for it pumps water with its own engines. It does not need shoeing, though it needs new tires. Being able to cover more ground in a given time, it renders less apparatus necessary and the number of engine houses may be reduced one-half.

But what will become of the old fire horse? He may be sent to the farm to draw the plow or wagon, or may be harnessed to the heavy dray in the city until the auto truck drives that out of use. He may serve out the rest of his days for the city, hauling street sweepers or paving material. If too old for service, he may be pensioned in pasture by a grateful municipality, or, should the city be coldly practical, he may be consigned to the knacker. His days of glory are passing and will soon end.

ONE CRITIC'S STRANGE FANCY.

The objection Mr. Piggott offers to the interstate bridge is striking for its novelty. Perhaps that is the reason it appeals to Mr. Piggott as being worth while, for it seems to The Oregonian to have no other merit. Briefly, Mr. Piggott wants to build a tunnel through the hills southwest of Portland and leave Southwestern Washington to unreclaimed isolation. Why not develop our own resources? demands Mr. Piggott. Why build up Vancouver at the expense of Portland?

Waving aside the question as to whether a tunnel is the solution of the problem of better opening-up of the Tualatin country, and admitting, for the sake of argument, that the people of Portland would hail with joy the opportunity to get out into the country, and come back again, through a long, dark hole in the hills, why should we assume that Clarke County and Southwestern Washington belong to a foreign state and that we ought to ignore their existence by refusing to support any effort to improve our facilities of communication? It is absurd, of course, to contend that the Tualatin Valley is tributary to Portland and that Clarke County is not. It is equally absurd to contend that Portland has no duty to remove or overcome any barrier between its limits and the adjacent country.

You can go around a hill or a mountain, ordinarily, but there is no way to get over a river except by crossing its surface or digging a tunnel. Building a bridge to replace the primitive ferry is a logical and necessary enterprise. The Columbia bridge is not only a vital link in the chain of interstate development, but it is in itself a recognition of our neighborly duty to our friends and patrons on the other side.

Some day the tunnel through the southwest hills will be built. We hope so. But we doubt if the state, recognizing its importance to all the people, will guarantee and pay the interest on the bonds issued to build the tunnel, as it is doing with the interstate bridge.

FORCING PARTY REGULARITY.

The Progressive party of New Jersey found its ingenuity taxed for an explanation of the poor showing it made in the recent primaries, but it has found one. It is a joker in the direct primary law, the law which was pushed through the Legislature by that progressive Democrat, Woodrow Wilson, the foremost champion of the people's will and the sternest foe of legislation in secret chambers. This is the joker, as quoted by the Progressives:

> No person who has voted at the last primary election in one party shall be allowed to vote at the primary election of another political party the following year.

As a club to drive the voters into regularity, it is a beauty. It compels them as long as they participate in primaries to continue in the same party in which they first registered. They can only legally change their party by omitting to participate in the primaries for a year. "Once a Democrat, always a Democrat" seems to be the law under President Wilson's new style of freedom.

Having made a miserable showing in the recent New Jersey primaries, as in other states, the Progressives are using Mr. Wilson's joker to cover their weakness. They say it forbids Republicans who would otherwise have transferred their allegiance to the new party to carry out their wish. Of course, there is but a corporal's guard of such Republicans; the trend is all the other way. In states where elections have been held this year the Progressives have flooked back into the Republican ranks by tens of thousands. There is every reason to believe that they would have done the same in New Jersey had they actually gone out prior to the November election.

But the new party did not flock by itself in the primaries for state and Congressional offices in New Jersey in 1912. They continued to masquerade as Republicans for the purpose of dictating Republican nominations. Now they find that Mr. Wilson's joker compels them to continue marching under the Republican banner. Had they come out under their own colors last year instead of remaining in the Republican party when they were not of it, they could have done the same this year and could have shown their full strength, what there is of it. As a party they have been largely shut out, simply as the result of their own duplicity.

RECLAIM THE SWAMPS.

A bill for the drainage of swamp land promises to form a companion to the law for reclamation of arid lands. It was prepared by the executive committee of the National Drainage Congress after conferences with the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, the Speaker, Vice-President and Senators and Representatives of all political parties. The Drainage Congress says it has assurances that the bill will pass if kept before the public and not permitted to "grow cold."

The bill creates a drainage fund consisting of proceeds of public lands in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin and Alaska, except the 5 per cent set aside for educational purposes. This fund is to be used in the drainage of swamp land by the Secretary of the Interior, who is to report to Congress yearly. He may withdraw public land from entry for drainage and after work is completed restore it to entry under the homestead laws, but not under the commutation law, subject to charges for construction and maintenance of drainage works. He is to fix these charges and the number of annual installments to be paid.

Where a drainage district is owned wholly by individuals, corporations or states, he may give them the privilege of letting the contract under state law. He may take over partly completed surveys or construction. Private or state land may be included with Government land in a project on petition of a state and is to bear its share of the cost. In that case the drainage district is to issue bonds for the amount assessed against state and private lands and to deliver them to the Secretary, or the district may cede private or state land to the Government equal to at least 25 per cent of the area. If the work is to be done by the state or district, he is to turn over to it the proceeds of sale of bonds. Proceeds of sale of drained land are to be returned to the drainage fund and when the major part of a district has been paid for, the works are to be returned to the purchasers for maintenance. When navigable channels are possible, they are to be created and to remain under Federal control. The Secretary is authorized to condemn land when necessary and to lease or sell it. He may accept cessions of reclaimable land. He may establish townsites and may lease water power developed under the act, giving preference to municipalities.

This bill would do for swamp land states what the reclamation act does for arid land states, but would do it better. The power to condemn or accept cessions of land would remove one obstacle which has been encountered by the Reclamation Service. Drainage would make available for cultivation vast areas of rich land, which now breed malaria, other diseases and wild beasts.

DIVINING AND DOWSING.

The story that a congress of German scientists has resolved to form an international association to investigate the divining rod may or may not be true. The necessity for new investigations scarcely exists since the facts concerning this marvelous instrument are well known and undisputed. No person who has looked up the subject would think of denying that there are men in whose hands a hazel or other species of forked wand twists violently downward over a stream of underground water. Persons who possess this gift of discovering sites for wells are known as "dowsers" in English. They have similar names in other Teutonic languages, for the art is widespread and very ancient. The use of a wand connects it with the general subject of witchcraft. In almost every fairy story the presiding witch is fitted out with a magic wand of some sort. No enchanter ever appeared in the tales of chivalry without his instrument of the same sort. Shakespeare was well acquainted with lore of this nature and did not fail to give Prospero a wand appropriate to his superhuman powers in "The Tempest." Milton, who knew everything, knew all about enchanted wands, and in "Comus" it was only after the evil spirit had been dispossessed of this potent weapon that the fair damsel could be released. The ancients used wands in their arts of divination and we read plenteously of enchanters' rods in the Bible.

Moses had a very efficient one, which he used in his contests with the Egyptian magicians. In Exodus we read that he "cast the rod of God on the ground," only to behold it turn into a serpent, which surprising phenomenon naturally frightened him so that he fled. When he regained courage to pick it up again it became nothing more terrible than a wooden rod. Aaron also had a magic wand or rod, which, as Paul reminds us in Hebrews, had the capacity to bud and perhaps blossom when occasion required. This is even more wonderful than twisting downward in the artist's hands over a stream of hidden water. Divining rods have been popular in Germany since early times, because of their power to detect veins of minerals. In the Hartz Mountains particularly they have been relied upon a great deal for this purpose and the results have been, in general, satisfactory. In Southern France in the days of persecution the divining rod was found extremely useful for tracking heretics. Fleeing secular criminals might seemingly have been pursued in the same manner, though we do not read that they were.

The power to use a divining rod with profit does not belong to everybody. Like spiritual mediumship and clairvoyance it is possessed only by the elect. Men who have investigated the subject tell us that plain persons of the rank in life of artisans or farmers are most likely to succeed as dowsers. No doubt the comparative freedom of their minds from distracting ideas helps. The magician usually employs a forked wand of hazel or peach wood or taken from any tree that he favors. The particular kind of wood makes no difference. Some even use an iron hoop. A fork is held in each hand as the magician walks deliberately over the ground to be tested. When he approaches an underground stream the rod is violently twisted downward. Often the action is so violent that the bark is peeled off in his fingers. These facts, we repeat, are beyond question. They are as easy to verify as the miraculous cures at Lourdes or the wonders of Christian Science. How shall we explain them? The electrical hypothesis must be discarded. It is so facile to invoke the mysterious power of electricity that it has been sadly overworked in matters of this kind. Some tell us that table-tipping and the marvels of the planchette are caused by this protean element, but science scoffs at such explanations. Whatever causes the activity of the divining rod, we may be perfectly assured that it is not electricity or magnetism or anything of the sort.

For the true explanation we must turn to psychology. The dowser, all unbeknownst to himself, as Mrs. Gamp would put it, is a subject of motor-automatism. Something that he is not conscious of operates his muscles independently of his own volition. We must, in fact, invoke the help of the subconscious. Water running underground sends out certain vibrations, perhaps, or emanations of which the dowser's subconscious mind takes note. The knowledge which is thus gained does not rise into consciousness. It is like the migratory instinct of birds, which guides them thousands of miles without ever taking shape in their brains. The homing pigeon does not find its way by knowledge of the conscious sort, but by a similar mysterious instinct to that which leads the dowser to underground water. No doubt his feats indicate what man will be able to accomplish when he has developed his potential relations with the subconscious. They are at present rare and rudimentary, but in the future nobody can predict what they may grow into. The only use of the wand is to fix the dowser's mind on his task and assist him into the state of self-hypnotization which makes motor-automatism possible. As he walks along in this condition the vibrations, as we may call them, from the subterranean stream affect his subconscious mind and his muscles are thrown into violent activity.

It is to be hoped that the German savants, if they undertake to look into this matter, will find out something new, but we do not believe they will. It is already too well known and understood.

The Indianapolis News cites the virility of the rice-eating Japanese and Chinese as evidence that meat is not necessary for us Americans. That only proves that Japanese and Chinese can grow strong without meat; it does not prove that Americans can do so. A change from a rice to a meat diet would probably be injurious to the Oriental nations because they have been trained to eat rice; a change from a meat to a rice diet would probably injure Americans for the same reason. The best rule to follow is that suggested by the Agricultural Department—eat what you like, that is, so long as you have the price. The present price of meat strains our pocketbooks, but it will stimulate production of more meat, and this will regulate the price. We need not all become vegetarians, though we can, and perhaps must, get along with less meat.

The National child labor committee estimates that 1,000,000 children in the United States who ought to be at school are employed in gainful occupations. More than 200 industries derive part of their profit by thus helping to blight the lives of the rising generation. Sometimes it is the children themselves who shirk school in order to earn pocket money. Often their delinquency is the parents' fault. Whoever may be to blame, the public welfare requires that these children should leave the mills and go to school.

A Minnesota farmer was blest with enough sense of humor to be able to jest about the failure of his corn crop. He searched through his scorched cornfields for enough roasting ears for dinner, his wife removed the kernels and cooked them. His daughter's "steady" was the guest of honor, and, after taking one spoonful of corn, was about to take a second, when the farmer checked him, saying: "Stop right there, young man; you already have fifteen acres on your plate."

Kaiser William's opinions in favor of total abstinence seem not to have penetrated the German universities. A "dry" student at Griefswald, who criticised the authorities for disciplining him because he refused to take part in a drinking bout in honor of the Kaiser, has been imprisoned for three days for "inciting to action against academic customs." If the Kaiser is still "on the water wagon," he should discipline the academic authorities.

The Balkan peoples in the United States may raise a race issue. The Greek, Roumanian, Servian and Bulgarian shoeblacks of Indianapolis formed a trust and maintained the price of "shines" at 10 cents, but negroes cut prices and "busted" the trust. How can "the American standard of wages" be maintained by the polyglot people of Southeastern Europe when such conduct is tolerated?

An accident in the Middle West which caused the deaths of two persons and the injury of several others is ascribed to "a friendly race between automobiles." What would an unfriendly race be like?—Springfield Republican.

The chauffeurs would probably shoot up each others' tires and throw confetti.

Cured of kleptomania, a Los Angeles woman thief has been released. One day, as understanding of human nature increases, all our criminals will be treated for their moral maladies.

New York takes its rainfall in bulk, 4.86 inches falling in one day. Oregon's rainfall is distributed at the rate of 4.86 a month and is found far more beneficial and less objectionable.

Daring bankrobbers held up an Arkansas bank in broad daylight and stood off the town with rifles. Must be trying to qualify to write for the popular magazines.

Failure to raise money leaves the Bull Moose without fodder for the coming Congressional campaign. Who wants to spend money on a forlorn hope?

Doctors are interested in the case of a man who has hiccoughed for thirty days. We have known of men doing it for thirty years.

A Milwaukee butcher says his heavy business is due to the rush of unmarried spinsters to his place. Regular weinerwurst idol.

The Kankakee system of compelling insane persons to remain in bed is effective, only the poor creatures die as success comes.

Dr. Owen, great anti-Shakespeare militant, has gone in search of fresh documentary evidence. Trying to save his Bacon.

Thaw has protested against his return from Canada to the United States. We feel as badly about it as he does.

Hobos are advocating good roads. They must have found some method of boarding the brakebeam of motor cars.

That navigator who tried to run his sailing vessel over a mountain must have thought he was in a hydroplane.

Yakima Indians are fighting for water rights. Their forefathers used to fight for firewater rights.

The Reed College sophomores who were pulled through a slimy pool should be wiser now.

With the six-rides-for-a-quarter plan postponed ten days, the patron sees 50 cents vanish.

We apply for the job of superintendent of the city gold mine at Mount Tabor.

Another big deal, the sale of a town lot for $350,000, has been closed. Prosperous days!

It's getting so one needs an alpenstock to navigate the downtown streets.

Having stood the earthquake test, no fear need be felt for the Panama Canal.

As we predicted, the latest Mexican crisis went up in smoke over night.

DANGER IN RESERVATION POLICY.

Change Needed in Interior With Deepening of Columbia.

ROCKCREEK, Or., Oct. 1.—(To the Editor.)—Your recent editorial on the necessity of opening a 40-foot channel from Portland to the ocean will no doubt be approved by every citizen of the Columbia River Basin, and no doubt all will agree with you that every legitimate effort should be used to accomplish this at the earliest date possible. To pull out the plug that hinders the largest ships afloat from free access to Astoria and Portland is commendable. Yet if the resources of this vast region are partly locked up by a reservation policy that prevents a full and complete development of all its resources, the expenditure necessary to "pull out the plug" will be partly in vain.

It is but recent history that rival railroads were delayed in building up one bank of Columbia River into Central Oregon by power-site reservations. Without railroads centuries might have elapsed ere that region's resources would have been available or it could have been settled.

That these power-site reservations prevent the use of water for irrigation or power purposes let the reader of the following rulings judge. These letters were sent to me by way of advice as to "right of way" for irrigating ditch:

> Sir: In reply to your letter of 21st ult., you are advised that the N. W. ¼ sec. 31, T. 1 N., R. 20 E., Oregon, has been withdrawn for the proposed U. S. power site No. 24, and so long as this withdrawal exists said tract is not subject to disposal or appropriation for any other purpose. This is the only tract withdrawn in the sections mentioned in your letter, so that any other portions of said sections that may be vacant are subject to appropriation for right of way purposes.

This ruling was made October 12, 1909. On November 13, 1909, after this letter had been reviewed by the Board of Law Review, the General Land Office sent me the following ruling by way of advice:

> Sir: Refering to your letter of the 21st ult., there is enclosed a circular containing the several acts granting rights of way over the public lands and reservations of the United States for canals, ditches, reservoirs, etc., for various purposes, and regulations thereunder. The control of the flow and use of water is, so far as these acts are concerned, vested in the states or territories, the jurisdiction of this department being limited to the approval of maps carrying the right of way over the public lands. Of the tracts described in your letter, the N. W. ¼ Sec. 31, T. 1 W., R. 20 E., the S. W. ¼, N. E. ¼, E. ½, N. W. ¼, and N. W. ¼, S. E. ¼, Sec. 6, and W. ½, S. W. ¼, Sec. 7, T. 1 S., R. 20 E., Oregon, have been reserved as a proposed U. S. power site, so that none of said tracts are subject to appropriation for any other purpose so long as such reservation remains in force.

These two letters of advice concerning right of way for an irrigating ditch are practically the same, save in second letter it includes all the lands inquired about, while the first does not, and the second letter advises that the "control of the flow of water is let to the states and territories." Yet a water right filed with State Engineer of Oregon would avail a man nothing if his right of way crosses any power site reserve. Since then these rulings may have been reversed. If they have, I am not fully advised, though a letter by the Assistant Secretary of Interior to Senator Chamberlain, written last year, which I had the pleasure of reading, hints that it may have been reversed, but does not definitely say so.

If you will get a map of these power-site reserves you will find them along nearly every stream of water in Oregon and many of them are mixed in with patented lands in small tracts like those referred to in my letter of inquiry. The settlers owning intervening tracts cannot legally secure a right of way across these lands.

The State of Oregon, by legislation of 1905, passed a law which compelled the Land Board to put in all deeds the following clause, viz.:

> Subject, however, to right of way for ditches, canals and reservoir sites for irrigating purposes, constructed, or which may be constructed by the authority of the United States or otherwise, which right of way is hereby expressly reserved.

This to the writer sounds very much like a quit claim deed, for all state lands sold since 1905, until some one might want to use them for reservoirs, ditches or canals. I am aware a prominent attorney of this state claims there could be two decisions in reference to what this might mean.

The territory affected by these reserves is only a small portion of this vast region of the Columbia River basin, yet the rulings of General Land Office and the deeds of the State of Oregon may and will likely be a retarding influence on a complete development of the resources of this section, even if we pull out the plug to the Ocean. J. E. David.

APPRECIATION.

I stand amidst Earth's changing scene,
 I watch the shadows as they fall;
A moment may but intervene
 When the greater light obscures them all;
All earthly forms must pass away,
 The shadows quickly come and go.
The things I love—how soon decay,
 I thank the Lord that it is so.

Of earthly goods I have but few;
 I know the way of "sweat-earned" bread;
The strife to make old things look new.
 While my hungered heart was yet unfed;
Nay, I'm not robed in purple gowns,
 Nor with latest "slang" am up-to-date.
The changing world upon me frowns;
 I thank the Lord for this, my fate.

There are greater things that I possess,
 No greater hath kind Heaven wrought,
That before my God I may confess
 All the beauty of my thought.
O! What inborn joy I feel
 As all my thoughts to Him doth flow,
Bringing riches that are real;
 I thank the Lord that it is so.

I thank Thee, Lord, for my desire
 To know the peace the Savior brings;
I thank Thee, Lord, Thou didst inspire
 My mind to seek more lofty things;
I thank Thee, Lord, that Thou didst show
 Thy love when Thou withheld from me
The better things on earth below
 That I might find my peace in Thee.

Yea, Lord, I thank Thee that I missed
 The many things that many crave;
The rose strewn path, sun-ray kissed,
 That leads me downward to the grave.
I stand amidst this changing scene,
 I watch the shadows as they fall;
I stand and watch, I stand serene;
 God's love is greater far, than all.
—B. Y.

Location of Metz.

MOLALLA, Or., Oct. 1.—(To the Editor.)—I am writing you as an authority to settle an argument regarding the location of a town by the name of Metz, in France. The base of the argument is as follows, that the above mentioned town is 16 miles from Paris and the opposition is that there is no German territory within 50 miles of the French capitol.

Metz is a city in Alsace-Lorraine, German territory, and is more than 200 miles from Paris.

Shutting Up a Mother-in-Law.

Puck.

Jinks—From what you told me of your mother-in-law I should think you'd have heard enough from her in person, without having cared to induce her to talk into your phonograph.

Filkins — Oh, you can't imagine the pleasure it gives me to start the machine going, and then shut it off right in the midst of a sentence.

SOLUTION OF SOCIAL PROBLEM.

It Will Come Only When Double Moral Standard Is Abandoned.

PORTLAND, Oct. 2.—(To the Editor.)—Having read in The Oregonian Judge Stevenson's remarks upon the segregation of a social vice district may I say that I feel confident that the public, generally speaking, applauds his expressed desire to wipe out this vice forcibly, but must question the feasibility of his plan. Theoretically it is most beautiful, but I fear that the Judge and his co-dreamers might experience a sad awakening were they called upon practically and justly to solve the problem by that method.

His comparisons are indeed odious, as we all know that if all the murderers, firebugs and thieves in our state were bunched together they would be but a handful in comparison to vast numbers practicing prostitution in one form or other here. We have adequate means at hand with which to handle the murderers, but the proposed law against prostitution must necessarily take in great numbers outside the district of professional vice, for do not statistics prove that venereal disease is much more prevalent among non-prostitutes and young girls than it is among the professional? So why punish the unfortunate woman of the underworld alone for a crime which could not possibly exist were it not for the men?

Again, if we are to punish man and woman alike for this crime, where in spacious Oregon are we to find a spot large enough for the buildings required to house them all?

As Judge Gatens says of the reform schools, "No reformatory ever reformed a boy; he enters it with only a specific knowledge of crime, and leaves it usually with full knowledge of crime generally, and is fitted thenceforth to follow the life of a graduate criminal." So it would be with the creatures of the underworld. Environment and association go far in reforming or corrupting the morals. Why waste time sprinkling perfume at the mouth of a sewer to purify its contents?

The unjust upholding by society of the double standard of morals for men and women is the primal cause of this social problem, and nothing but the single standard shall ever solve it.

MRS. ANIM SNETAG.

FLIMSY DRESSES ARE MERE LURE.

Women Seek Not Comfort, but Attention, Says C. M. Moore.

PORTLAND, Oct. 1.—(To the Editor.)—May I be permitted to reply to the letter of W. W. Truax which appeared in The Oregonian September 27? He severely criticises F. A. B., who writes on the decency side of the question of female apparel, and winds up by saying: "The only contention of importance that the writer desires to make is that the human female form in itself is not and never was and never will be an indecent thing."

That is very true, and I believe no one will dispute with him on that statement. But "the human female form" is, in the present day, being put to very indecent uses by very indecent females. It is hard for me to believe that any decent, sensible woman will expose her person on the streets in the way some of them are doing in the present styles.

He says, "Women themselves are the best judges as to what is best to wear for their own comfort and convenience." That may be true also, but if they were to follow their best judgment for comfort they would put on more clothes in cool weather, instead of taking them off and exposing their bare skin to the chilly air. I have seen them shivering in the cold, with barely enough clothes on "to wad a shotgun." There is no comfort in that, but there is pleasure for them in seeing the men stare at their "charms," and they will risk their health for that pleasure. And there seems to be very few really healthy womn now days in the cities.

"The human female form" is not, as a rule beautiful, but the nakedness of it in the present-day styles has an attraction for some men that they cannot resist, and nobody knows it better than the women. C. M. MOORE.

TOM LAWSON SET IN DE LUXE

Amazing Volume in Red Sent to Every Member of Congress.

Washington, D. C., Cor. New York Sun.

Thomas W. Lawson, Boston's financier, sprung one on official Washington that caused every member of Congress to rub his eyes. In the mail of every member there arrived a copy of Mr. Lawson's latest literary work, a treatise on the cost of living, bound in colors so bright that it caused eyes to water when first exposed to view.

This is an autographed edition de luxe limited to 1000 copies. It is one of the rarest things seen in Washington in many a day. It is a bulky volume, about 13 inches by 10, containing 175 pages, printed on fine, heavy paper and generally got up regardless of expense. The covers are of velvety, bright red lambskin and are ribbed with crimson material.

On the cover, embossed in gold, appears the name "Thomas W. Lawson" in relief. There are a photograph of Lawson and a picture of the devil, the latter entitled "His High Living Cost." There are 14 chapters in the book, in each of which "the system" is handed some hot shot. One chapter is headed thus: "To H—— With It All."

The more frenzied portions of the book are printed in red ink.

Does Shakespeare Quote Bible?

CHEHALIS, Wash., Sept. 30.—(To the Editor.)—"But we would go still farther and suggest that it were wise to bar out Shakespeare from our libraries, as he quotes so voluminously from the Bible."

The foregoing is an excerpt from an epistle entitled "Dangers Lurk in Literature," over the signature of R. T. Weyburn, on the editorial page of The Oregonian September 29.

The general impression prevails that Shakespeare rarely if ever quoted from the Bible in his literary work. A severe attack of inertia prevents me at present from combing his plays for such instances. Could Mr. Weyburn be induced to divulge which of the many Bibles he has reference to and to cite some of the plays of Shakespeare where the quotations can be found?

PROFOUND STUDENT.

Mr. Piggott's Objection.

PORTLAND, Oct. 2.—(To the Editor.)—In the matter of the interstate bridge across the Columbia River at Vancouver, Wash., allow me to suggest to the taxpayers of Portland that they would make a better investment with their money in putting a tunnel through the hill southwest of the city and opening up 15 or 20 square miles adjoining the city than by opening up Vancouver in the State of Washington. I, for one, believe in developing our own resources first. It is true that this bridge would open up a new route for autos, but the majority of the taxpayers are unable to own an auto. They are unable to receive any benefit excepting to see Vancouver developed at the expense of our own city.

C. H. PIGGOTT.

Magazine Feature Pleases.

WESTPORT, Or., Sept. 29.—(To the Editor.)—Your little Sunday Magazine was sure a happy thought. It will be highly appreciated, especially by out-of-town subscribers where such reading is a luxury.

MRS. ARTHUR M. WHYTE.

Definition of a Bridegroom.

The Club Fellow.

Jones—A bridegroom doesn't count for much at his own wedding.

Smith—No; he might as well be Vice-President of the United States.

Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of October 3, 1888.

Helena, Mont., Oct. 2.—The vigilance committee held a consultation last night for the first time in a good many years, and Bryson, the wife-murderer, can thank them for saving his life temporarily. The citizens were ripe for a lynching bee, and it was only by the influence of the prominent men of the vigilance committee that an assault on the jail was prevented.

The steamer Michigan has been moved to Duniway & Co.'s wharf and a large force of men have been unloading the steam motor and passenger car of the Portland & Vancouver Railway Company.

The Willamette Bridge Company will begin work on their track on Williams avenue today.

William Dunbar is preparing a shipment of apples to China.

Mr. E. Cookingham, private secretary to General Manager Holcomb, of the O. R. & N. Company, returned Monday night from the East.

Yesterday occurred the annual election of the Morrison Street Bridge Company. The following board of directors was elected: William Beebe, C. M. Wiberg, Rufus Mallory, H. A. Hogue, J. M. Campbell.

The opening lecture of the medical department of the University of Oregon will be delivered at St. Vincent's Hospital by Professor Curtis C. Strong, followed by a clinic under direction of Dr. William Jones.

Frank A. Cook, bookkeeper for Z. I. Wright, in loading his revolver Monday, accidentally discharged a load, which took effect upon the patella bone of his right knee.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of October 3, 1863.

The total white population of Idaho Territory is 32,342. Of this number 7403 are voters.

Father De Smet, the celebrated missionary, is journeying across the mountain and may be expected in Walla Walla in a few days.

Washington, Sept. 26.—The Government has received glorious news from Rosecrans. This is interpreted to mean that reinforcements have reached him. Sherman's corps is on the way to Rosecrans.

Washington, Sept. 26.—A special dispatch says the Army of the Potomac is in motion.

Drs. Glisan and Wilson yesterday made their regular monthly inspection of the State Insane Asylum at East Portland.

Major H. A. Goldsborough, Collector of the Federal Revenue for Washington Territory, was in our city yesterday.

One hundred and twenty-five pounds of gold dust came down on the Hunt last night. Tracy & Co.'s express from Boise arrived also, bringing 100 pounds, besides a very large amount in the hands of passengers.

Pacific market—Mr. A. H. Johnson, formerly of the firm of Johnson & Perkins, has purchased the interest of Weeks & Gilmore in the above market.

MAKE-BELIEVE WAR-PLAY COSTLY.

Rumania Loses 10,000 Soldiers and Never Fought Battle.

Bucharest Dispatch.

Rumania's victorious army in the "war" with Bulgaria is returning and the troops are being sent to their homes. The "war"—literally jumping on a nation when it is down—which resulted in the taking of several hundred square miles of Bulgarian territory and adding them to Rumania, was a bloodless "war" but not a deathless one.

Rumania ran against a foe it had not figured on—cholera and typhoid. An official report issued gives the number of dead from cholera as 867, but returning soldiers and officers declare that it exceeds 5000. Many of the troops are still in quarantine. There is danger of the cholera spreading throughout Rumania. In that event Rumania will pay dearly for the territory taken from Bulgaria when the latter could not help itself.

Recalling the American-Spanish War and its confusion on the American side, serious charges are made against the War Department of utter incapacity in dealing with the commissary and sanitary departments of the army sent to Bulgaria. The question is asked if the casualties from disease alone in a war of a week in which not a shot was fired, has been 5000 from typhoid and no small number from dysentery, what would have been the death toll had Bulgaria been in a position to fight?

It develops that the army of occupation was three days without food after crossing the Danube into Bulgaria. The commissary department broke down completely. The three days' rations the troops carried with them turned out to be spoiled, wormy and unfit for consumption. The hungry soldiers stormed the orchards and ate unripe fruit. Dysentery and other intestinal troubles put a large portion of the army out of business. Not expecting this and being unprepared, the hospital department broke down completely and was unable to take care even of a small proportion of the sick. This resulted in many unnecessary deaths. According to reports in the Rumanian papers it is believed that when the truth is known—if it is ever made known—Rumania paid for the territory taken from Bulgaria with not less than 10,000 lives on the field of dishonor—that is incompetence and inefficiency.

Art Critic in Serious Mood.

London Opinion.

Countryman (at the National Gallery)—Why, them's the very same pictures I saw here the day before yesterday!

Attendant (dryly)—Quite likely.

Countryman—Then that clerk at the hotel is an awful liar. He told me that the pictures was changed daily in all the leadin' picture houses.

Encouraging the Advertiser

If newspaper advertising leads you to some purchase or transaction that results to your advantage, or if it points the way to easier and more comfortable shopping and business dealings—in short, if it in any way works to your advantage as a reader of this newspaper, why not tell the advertiser so, if an opportunity offers?

If the advertiser is business-like and progressive enough to place his proposition within your reach through the columns of this newspaper, he deserves to be encouraged. He should know that your patronage at least was secured by means of his advertising in The Oregonian.

Without a doubt any one of our advertisers would be glad to know that you have benefited by his announcements and would welcome your ideas and remarks upon that very important part of his business.

—Adv.