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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, NOV. 27, 1913. tween legal and illegal voters.

### THANKSGIVING.

Good Cheer has its innings. All the rest of the year we may grumble at fate if we will. Today we count our blessings and thank the ruler of the universie that things are as well with us as they are. They might be worse, far worse. The very fact that we are still alive counts for much. Charles Lamb, strolling through a graveyard, read on one of the tombs the warning, "Such as I am soon you will be, therefore prepare to come with me." The humorist pondered and dissented. "Not so fast, my friend," he muttered, "I am worth a thousand of you yet." And in truth he was. It is a glorious blessing to be alive, not only because life in itself is the greatest wonder of the universe, but because as long as we draw breath we can help make the world interesting. Even a person who can never hope to do a great deal toward bettering conditions can help to stir them up and keep them from stagnation. Our generation certainly has ample cause for thankfulness in that respect. The world is not permitted to stagnate for an instant. What with and social tides running criss-cross in every direction, we cannot complain of too much placidity.

No doubt the twentieth century will be the most interesting that has run its course since time began. already made a good start in that direction. With flying machines of vaered photography and moving pictures with all their possibilities, to say nothing of the Diesel engine, we seem to he on the eve of developments more wonderful than our fathers dared to dream of. Twenty-five years ago it used to be said disconsolately that all the great discoveries in natural science had been made and the book of revelations was as good as closed. For the future there was nothing but tiresome pottering over knowledge that had grown old and stale. This was the melancholy cry just before radium was brought to light with all its marvels and the Wright brothers had perfected their first flying machine. It is a satisfaction to think that we shall always have fresh miracles of science and invention to wonder over. And it is still more of a satisfaction to understand the marvelous way in which every great mechanical advance trans-The biologists civilization. forms have taught us that every step in the evolution of the body implies a thousand adjustments before it can become

It is the same with civilization. the cotton gin. Forthwith the entire structure of society sets to work to readjust itself around the novel contrivance. The cotton gln transformed the economics of the South and gave slavery a hold on the country it never could have gained otherwise. The steam engine with the machinery which it produced initiated mankind into what Herbert Spencer aptly called "the age of industrialism." What if industrialism is not quite perfection? Nothing is perfect in this world or ever will be, luckily for us, since as on as we reach perfection we shall have nothing more to work and plan for and we may as well march straight to the grave. Industrialism with all its failings is infinitely better than militarism, which it has almost thrust out of existence.

That is another cause of thankful-

"pragmatical" or workable.

ness. In spite of all superficial evidence to the contrary, war is seeing its last days on earth. Where it will go when it disappears from this world we need not specify, since unpleasant references ought to be shunned on Thanksgiving. It is sufficient for us that the next generation will probably have seen the last of its hideous face The final cessation of war will come to pass like a great many other fundamental reforms for the reason that will no longer pay to fight. not so much the speeches and tracts of Mr. Carnegie and his disciples as the web of international trade that will ultimately fulfil the angel's blessing of peace on earth. When slavery no longer paid dividends it disappeared quietly over most of the world. In solely for the protection of seamen, the United States its death was more Its aim is and its effect would be to tragic, but we may feel assured that if New England had been able to extract dividends from negro servitude when the South rebelled Lincoln would have drawn few troops from the vicinity of Plymouth Rock. From this land was among the vessels which point of view we ought to give thanks for the extension of international trade, Inasmuch as it means inevitably the reign of peace on earth and good

will among men. This is emphatically the age of trade and profits. Nor should we deplore it too much if eagerness for profit now and then degenerates into miserliness. because it is the stored-up savings of this generation upon which the next will build its great foundations of love and mercy. First of all, before we can make any advance whatever toward the Christian ideal, we must accumulate the means to pay for it with Men had to enslave their fellows until they had accumulated capital enough to set the forces of inanimate nature at work. Then the slaves were freed. We shall be obliged to resort to some The other cars can be taken by other regrettable devices of commerce until members of the crew or by passengers, We shall be obliged to resort to some world has gathered the means to pay for a better education. Before our hired for the engine-room and cabin morals and feelings can improve we without regard to their ability to row

Slowly the human race decides to spend its wealth on schools and little little our schools verge toward the eful. The great ideal of a world where all shall work and all shall en-

and it must come down from its er would be his gift of tongues. throne. cause of thankfulness we have is the guages. His probable income from the growing splendor of toll. Once the ring awes the imagination. teacher was a slave in his patron's household. Once the physician was a despised sorcerer. Once the farmer was the mudsill of the world. Now in-telligent toll climbs daily nearer to the seat of glory as well as power and brightest symbol in heraldry will be the strong hand acting in unison with the intelligent brain. If we achieve conders now when so many things are topsy-turvy what shall we not do then when all is orderly and rational?

OUR ANTIQUATED SCHOOL LAWS. The school laws applicable to Port-There may be legitimate differences of opinion as to whether taxpayers only Eastern Business Offices-Verree & Conk-should vote or whether the privilege should be open to all registered citi-But there can be no difference zens. of opinion about a system which makes no discrimination whatever be-

At the meeting in the Ammory it had a right to vote and who had not. mulcted for damages. On Thanksgiving day the Spirit of It is not known that any improper votes were cast, but had aliens been disposed to take part in the election nobody could have hindered them. There was no orderly discussion, no adequate understanding of the ques-

tions at issue. It must be admitted by everybody that the time has come to relieve Portland of her antiquated school laws. Whatever may be true for the rest of the state it is undeniable that village conditions no longer exist here and that we must cease to act as villagers if we desire satisfactory returns for the money we spend upon the

The old rural school meeting is an anomaly in a city as large as Portland, It should be abandoned and the votes should be cast at polling places con-veniently situated. Not one polling place, but many are needed. The questions to be decided should be discussed before election day, as they are in other departments of government The public platform and the press pro vide a better forum for discussion than a chaotic meeting, where the loudest wars and rumors of wars, feminism voice bawls reason down and disorder sliences protest.

TAXES. Taxes are high. They are always high and always will be high, so long as government assumes more and more functions and the citizen insists rious patterns, the development of colfits of a paternal system. Everybody gets more from than he gives to government; yet nobody pays more in the payment of a large sum of money money than he must and few pay more for the surrender of the oil proper-

obvious that we must quit building new schoolhouses, better roads, new all foreigners employed by the Pearlibraries, new parks, new playgrounds, new public buildings; and it is obvious that we must restrict and not expand our municipal and educational activities.

As an illustration of the increased ost of government due solely to the universal demand for better streets, tenance and repair will be a large sum, clean and smooth we should not have British force for that purpose, built them.

Moral sussion is not likely to have built them.

If the taxpayer wants to see where his money goes let him study the county, city and school budgets. It is the same with civilization.

Some ingenious inventor perfects a new machine like the steam engine or the season of the steam engine or numerous channels through which his the setton gin. Forthwith the cuties money goes. Yet when it is proposed of Federal troops against him. He to cut off any of them, there is a loud will scarcely yield to anything but and

quarter. Just now the taxpayers themselves instance particularly, use rectly interested, for a majority of to starve out, and would render what was done, why did he leave the city meeting to others who had something they wanted? Yet it seems that none except persons who are after something ever think of going to an annual necessity of armed intervention. school meeting.

But we need schols and must build new ones if we are to have any at all. If we build them, we must pay for If we build schools we do not need we must pay for them, too. It is better, of course, to build the schools we need when they are needed. So it is better to build the roads we need when they are needed and when we are certain of the benefits to follow. Public moneys invested in schools and roads-if they are well built and prop. erly located-are never wasted,

# MAKE SEA TRAVEL SAFER.

The seamen's bill, which has been passed by the Senate and which now faces fierce opposition from shipowners in the House, is not a measure safeguard life at sea not only for seamen, but for the vastly larger number of passengers.

The burning of the Volturno proved the need of such a law. The Kroonwent to the rescue and among her passengers was Mrs. Florence Kelly, secretary of the National Consumers' She tells a graphic story of League. the Kroonland's work in saving eightyshe makes this impressive statement:

If a steamship cannot carry enough able seamen to man all her boats, her owners can insure that her stewards, stokers and firemen shall be able to handles an oar and shall have some The seamen's drill in rescue work. bill requires enough lifeboats to carry all on board a ship and enough able seamen to provide two for each boat. for many men can row. But men are must improve the average intelligence and no boat drill is provided in many of mankind and that is an expensive cases. When disaster comes, lifeboats are too few and some of those few are

useless for lack of men to row them. Should Darizas, the new wonder at the University of Pennsylvania, decide to enter the ring after he gradujoy the fruits of intelligent toil per- ates, he has more than one qualificameates the social structure. Idleness tion. His weight of 250 pounds, com-

The Oregonitant | honor. It is still respected more than ther," promises well, but far more useit deserves, but it is an idol of clay ful to him as an exhibition prizefightand it must come down from its er would be his gift of tongues. He it deserves, but it is an idol of clay ful to him as an exhibition prizefight-Very likely the greatest is more or less master of nine lan-

### AN INVITATION TO SUE.

As we understand a recent ruling by the State Supreme Court in an Astoria case, it is in effect the law of Oregon that a jury may be called in court to pass upon the propriety of any street improvement ordered by city ordinance. Actual experience, if this decision is adhered to, or the law be the State Supreme Court in an Astoria it will not be many years before the that a jury may be called in court to not changed, will be multiplication of

ment work It is difficult to believe that the Legislature intended that questions of locating grades, constructing fills inmade subjects of suits for negligence by affected property owners. Yet It seems that if a jury determines that a rough pavement ordered should have been a smooth pavement or decides that action was negligent in some simwas out of the question to decide who liar particular, the city may be

The injustice of such a law is ap-parent when it is realized that one jury's verdict will not be binding on issues are identical. Moreover it is a matter of common knowledge that there is more than an even chance to make out a case before a jury when a corporation, private or municipal, defendant. It is probable that in isolated cases true negligence is committed in ordering street improve-ment, but the justice of the law must material. It is said that this rule was cism and complaint caused its over- road from farm to consumer. Oregon is viewed with grave appre- cared to make it so. hension by Portland's legal department and in that apprehension the taxpayers generally may properly

### FORCING WILSON'S HAND.

John Lind's hurried journey to Tuxoam was prompted by anxlety for the safety of those British interests which have been most influential until recently with the British government The rebel General Agullar telegraphed to the manager of the Pearson syndicate at Mexico City on November 21, informing him that the rebels were in possession of all the Pearson mineral properties, including El Petrero, the biggest oil gusher in the world. Aguilar ordered the manager to go to Tuxpam and meet his terms, which, a dispatch says, "evidently mean that he expects He threatened to cut of ting " If we want taxes to be lower it is supply of oil to the national railroads and demanded immediate removal of son syndicate "in order to avoid inter-

national complications."

Aguilar's demands threaten to force President Wilson's hand. The rebel's forced contributions levied on property. By selzing the oil supply they fall foul ing that which is for their own good. of the interest which was strong the single item of street cleaning and enough to induce prompt recognition sprinkling alone in Portland may be of Baron Cowdray's friend, Huerta, by mentioned. It is over \$350,000 per an- Great Britain. That interest is exmuch-needed fuel oil. It may be able whereas just now it is assumed for the to induce Premier Asquith to demand most part by the paving companies. that the United States protect its prop-

much effect on General Aguilar. By holding the oil fields, he can raise He will funds for the revolution and can cut by a woman's screams. It's usually the pub- off the fuel supply from the national a woman's pistol that does the trick effective protest from some force, the one instrument which Mr. Wilson most objects to using. In this have added two mills to the proposed would be contrary to the Wilson polschool levy. It is true that the tax- ley, for rescue of the oil supply from payers who attended the annual meeting Wednesday were more or less dithem lived in districts where it was rebels as hostile to the United States planned to build new schools for their as the federals already are. But if children; yet the meeting was open he refuses to intervene at Tuxpam, he to every taxpayer and it was his duty may have serious difficulty in prevent. to attend. If he is displeased with ing a British force from occupying the

American policy has thus come into direct conflict with British interests, and we have drifted still closer to the

# PLATFORM TO REUNITE PARTY.

Senator LaFellette makes clear his purpose to fight for the adoption of new platform at the special Republian convention to be held next Spring a signed article in LaFollette's Weekly he approves the plan to revise the basis of representation, but he

The rank and file of a united Republican party will demand, more of such a convention than a mere change in the rules of the game. They will demand assurance that the party is to keep step with the

hat the party is to keep step with the teeds of the Nation.

The divided Republican forces can only a reunited as they are inspired to believe a the sincerity of purpose and leadership of the reorganization. An extraordinary convention must hold out some stronger inducement than a plan or a new basis of representation if it would restere the party to confidence and

lin the effort to harmonize, the party nust not yield to the temptation to compromise principle. Too often the party out f power adopts the policy of negation, seeks dvantage in attacking the weak points of he adversary and caters to the disappointed and disaffected with vague promises of comething better.

This Administration is making a record for specific performance.

Saying that the tariff law, the currency bill and the proposed anti-trust law "constitute a record of some advance against centralized power, which eight persons from the Volturno, but the country has been aching to see made," he continues:

made," he continues:

No mere negative policy of criticism of
the methods of obtaining the legislation
nor of the legislation itself can be relied
upon to reinstate the Republican party in
control of Nanional administration.

An extraordinary convention that is to
arouse and enthuse the 7,000,000 Republicans, men and women, to a renewal of their
allegiance to the party of Lincoin must forecast a programme for the overthrow of the
centralized power that has undermined
representative government, more radical,
more aggressive and more advanced than
has been adopted by any party since the us been adopted by any party since th

Perhaps the new declaration of Re publican principles need not go so far as the Senator proposes; it need not e "more radical, more aggressive and more advanced than has been adopted by any party since the war," but it should be a ringing restatement of the principles announced by the founders of the party and should be so ad-vanced an application of those principles as to present conditions that the party can unite upon them. It should go hungry today. rally to the standard the divided and disheartened forces and inspire them with a unity of spirit and an enthusi- over. asm which would draw to them host was once the recipient of the highest bined with "the litheness of a pan- of independent voters and make the

result of the next Presidential election a striking contrast to that of the last.

The technical lawyer was rebuked by a common-sense judge when Judge Meals, of the Appellate Court of Cleveland, said in refusing to reverse the lower court's verdict on a pickpocket who had appealed on the ground of technical error:

But If that rule were to be invaridamage cases against every city that ably applied, there would be so much undertakes any sort of street improve. less work for lawyers that many of them would have to become farmers.

Commenting on a Mexico City dispatch which stated that Nelson stead of bridges or vice versa, or se- O'Shaughnessy, the American Charge ection of paving materials might be de Affaires, spent an afternoon golfing, the New York Sun says:

What are revolutions, wars, conquests, treason, stratagems and spoils to your true golfer? If the game had been known in Nero's time, he would have played it while Rome was burning, instead of merely fiddling.

What would you? Must our representative rest not day nor night from wagging his finger at Huerta and telling that obstinate despot to get out? He seems to have chosen an uncomanother jury in a case in which the monly mild sport to recuperate his energies. Let him golf in the intervals between interviews with Huerta.

Of the numerous bills in Congress aimed at the egg cold storage trusts some may possibly hit the mark, Such legislation is amiably intended and wins more or less applause, but eggs will never be cheap the year round be casual and its injustice general and again until production increases and marketing processes are improved. once in force in Ohlo, but wide criti- Our products travel a long and difficult Its apparent introduction in road might be short and easy if we

> In almost every neighborhood there are families to whom this day is not one of thanksgiving in the sense of too much to eat, especially if there be little ones among its members. the housewife to whom economy is not a specter send to at least one family the first cut off the turkey and all that goes with it. the messenger the experience will be a lasting lesson.

The New York police are known to Amid the nations of the world e imaginative, but there may be You proudly hold the foremost place. be imaginative, but there may be international society of crooks." series of stories in one of the magazines describes such a society by the name of "The Hundreds and Thou-sands." As a piece of fiction the ac-As a piece of fiction the account is entertaining. As an incident of real life such a society would be almost too stimulating.

People are already seeking another job for Colonel Goethals, and Dayton. O., talks of hiring him as a city man- They come, not as the Pilgrims came, ager. But if he undertook to manage a self-governing city as he has managed the Canal Zone he would probchief means of raising funds is en- ably be recalled in short order. Cities have to be coaxed and cajoled into do-

Even the man whose wife would leave him can find something for to be thankful today. He num. After awhile the cost of main- pected to supply the British navy with might be a bigamist in danger of losing both.

> It's a mistake to say the bank employe in New York who made away with \$250,000 was a mere clerk. He was at least an embryo financier.

A local burglar was frightened away

Mrs. Pankhurst has gone, with \$20,-000 loot from sympathizers. That sum will buy much ammunition on the

New Orleans has imported Argentine corn, and likes it so well there is talk of growing it in Lou-

Pennsylvania boasts a student of stupendous physique. But it's brain, not brawn, that counts these days.

If it is true that Huerta is a drunkard, news from Juarez ought to afford him inspiration for another spree.

With the prices of commodities up and the price of autos down right here is where the producer rides The darky who does not at least eat

chicken today has himself to blame in this dark of the moon.

At last something approaching a real battle appears to have been fought on Mexican soil.

The pessimist is giving thanks for the shrinkage in the hole of the doughnut.

The tango is making a hard fight for survival against the onslaughts of prudery.

It's only to be expected that the I. W, would disagree among themselves.

The small boy is thankful that his nother is the best cook that ever lived.

President has only about half a dozen The rebels claim to have won. But

With one big worry off his mind the

how long will they be on the rebel side?

"Fare thee well," Emmaline, "and if forever, then forever fare thee well.' duce prices. Like the tariff did?

Many friends of the barnyard are neeting in cold storage today. Of course, we will now have a regu-

lar epidemic of weddings. Let us all be thankful we have not died in the past year.

As the goose said to the turkey, it is for umbrellas." "I'll see you later." Does a prisoner come within the eight-hour law?

Plenty is so plentiful that none need

President Wilson is thankful it is

Home Town Thanksgiving By Dean Collins

Nothing care I for the rich cafe, Nor chefs well versed in the cooker books. For I am slated to get today
The Thanksgiving dinner my mother

Phough grills may offer their finest

and spices at which the palate thrills-I'm going back to the old home town. road), so that we could have For there is my dream of daintiness

books,
To stir the soul of an epicure,
Is the Thanksgiving dinner my moth-

Sauces and sweets are there for me known, Could offer me here, because, you see

er cooks.

The recipe is my mother's own. And cakes that out in the pantry stand. And the royal roast in this menu of

hand! With the cabaret and the dance and

strong. So keen your music and wine and din: The menu for me today shall be A Thanksgiving dinner that's genuine, That my little mother prepares for

# THANKSGIVING DAY.

Not for me on Thanksgiving Day

Oh, America, my native soil:

To thee our Pilgrim Fathers came,
And for their freedom did they toil

Winter in the Through that cold Winter in thy name.

Then, when the bitter Winter passed, And ripened grain in plenty lay, They all knelt down in thanks at last For blessings on Thanksgiving day.

Two centuries with fortune fraught Have rolled o'er thy discovered shore. But oh! What changes have they wrought, Since that first Thanksgiving day of yore.

something in their discovery of "an The Starry Banner you unfuried international society of crooks." A Still waves an emblem of God's grace,

Thy son's great deeds illume thy name;

And now the Nation's will to please They add the last note to thy fame— The glorious union of the seas. And yet a question grave there stands, Arousing many doublts and fears About the hordes from foreign lands

settle here throughout the Who

To seek a shrine for faith so pure; but only come for sordid gain And distant fortune's dazzling lure. But, Motherland, we trust in thee To teach them, for their need

great-To purify them till they see A higher purpose in their fate.
—Marguerite Templeton. Portland, Or.

> THANKSGIVING. O Thou, who lovest all Help us on Thee to call, And render thanks, The God of nature praise, Our chorus voices raise, For blessings on our days, And render thanks.

O God, our Father still. We yield to Thee our will, And render thanks; We see in earth and sky Ten thousand reasons why We should believe Thee nigh, And render thanks, Thou God of Providence

For gifts of excellence, We render thanks; O. Creator divine, I know that Thou art min And that all things are thine, And render thanks.

This is Thanksgiving day, Let all the nations pray, And render thanks; We will Thy goodness sing For gifts of everything. Making Thy praises ring, And render thanks,

O God, all glorious, In Thee victorious, We render thanks; The thought of Thee is sweet, As round our board we meet, Our friends again to greet, And render thanks. —Dennis Alonzo Watters. Portland, Or.

What's the Hurry? PORTLAND, Nov. 25.—(To the Editor.)—I see by The Oregonian under the items of 25 years ago that men have

een put to work to grade and pave an Fourth street, which has been torn up only nine months.

It seems this new generation of Ore-

gonians are very hard to please. We old fellows do not know any different and were perfectly happpy, or least resigned, to walk in mud up to the tops of our high boots. What is the use to hurry? The sooner the street is fixed the new reesrvoirs that our city would the sconer it will be torn up or worn have water enough for 50 years to out again. Even if it should take 25 come; why do we have to be stingy years to fix, it would be money OTTO KLEEMAN.

waiting for a train going the other way, "but I hate to do it."
"Why?" "Because you will think, after you've seen It, that I'm a Har."

Providing for a Rainy Day.

IAfe.
The boy had just handed his father a skable haberdasher's bill with the request that he pay it. "You are an extravagant idlot," roared the irate payent. "Does it ever occur to you to pre-vide for a rainy day?" "Why, yes, dad," said the youngster. "If you'll read over that bill you'll find that one of the items is for a \$25 raincoat, and \$15 of

# That German Wanderlust.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. "They tell me you've lost your hired man." "Yep, best farm hand I ever had." "Sho! What wuz th' matter?" "Nothin'. John's a German, you know, one or the other has not been divorced and these here Germans hev what they call the wanderlust. It's somethin' that keeps 'em movin' from one place marry, and return to the state in the tother, an' don't let 'em stay long any-wheres." "How long has John been with you?" "Only 11 years."

WASHINGTON COUNTY CATCHING UP Agreement With Auto Club on Road

Work More Than Kept. HILLSBORO, Or., Nov. 25.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian Sunday George E. Waggoner, of Portland, tells us that he "would like to take just one more fling at Washington County." then proceeds to ask: "Why should be proceed to the county of Jackson County, at our southern boun-dary, Multpomah on the north, and all other intervening counties throughout the length of our state, spend millions bills,
With turkey browned to the richest brown,
brown,
and spices at which the palate thrills—
I'm going back to the old home town,
stretch of five miles (Rex-Tigardville) tinuous improved highway through the

state?" One of the kinds you read in the books.

Then listen to this: "Washington County may think they can work the 'dog in the manger racket,' but they cannot." The facts warrant me in saycannot." The facts warrant me in say-ing that Mr. Waggoner's complaint is based on false premises. Washington County has been my home for 22 years, and I have been a taxpayer most of that time. I believe I understand the situation much better than Mr. Waggomer, and I think it well that all in-terested should know the truth. This county agreed with the Port-

Oh, the pumpkin ples and the salads land Auto Club to take from the general road fund of the county \$3000 to be used on the stretch of road com-plained of, the auto club to furnish the nd the royal roast in this menu of balance necessary to macadamrize the road. Up to last March the county paid for this purpose \$2299.78, the auto club \$6404.83; three miles of this road has been completed and the remaining five miles graded. This leaves a balance of \$700.22 yet to be furnished by the county, and this will be forthcoming whenever it is called for and there is any assurance that the auto club will The call of the home town is too complete the balance of the road. s apparent to anyone that this county more than complied with its promise to the auto club, as less than one-half the road is completed and four-fifths of Washington County's contribution

> In this connection I doubt the County Court's authority to take money from the general road fund and use it for any particular piece of permanent road work in the county. I live in Hillsboro and very seldom use the piece of road in question, yet under this contribu-tion, part of which I have paid in taxes, funds were handed over to the several road districts in that neighborseveral road districts in that neighbor-hood for their immediate benefit; these road districts have evidently refused to tax themselves for improving this road, but are willing that outsiders shall be taxed for their use. I have paid a 5-mill special levy for five or six years in my own road district and rock roads have been built, and it is unfair that I should contribute to other road districts who refuse to lavy taxes road districts who refuse to levy taxes. Mr. Waggoner should take his "fling" at the road districts through which this stretch of road extends, and I am will-ing to co-operate with him in doing so. I am glad to inform Mr. Waggoner,

however, that the road districts

plained of are the exception and not the rule. The records of Washington County show that to date we have 130 miles of macadam and gravel road in this county—and all paid for. Jackson County can bond itself for a half million dollars for road purposes, but Washington County, in the very near future, will have hard-surface roads without resorting to the bonding act.
Mr. Waggoner complains that "we" should have a through highway to the Willamette Valley. Pray, who are "we"? I have been under the impression that "we" selected the Pacific Highway (through Clackamas and Marion counties) from Portland to Salem for this purpose. Why don't "we" use it? Returning home from the State Fair this fall I tried to use it, resulting in two broken springs. Washington County has a through highway to the Willamette Valley over which I traveled to Salem to the State Fair, and from my home in Hillsboro to the Yamvithout resorting to the bonding act. from my home in Hillsboro to the Yamhill County line I traveled over hard-surfaced road every foot of the way. As soon as I came to the Yamhill County line I was on dirt road—but a vastly batter road than the Pacific Highway. drove to Salem over "our" through ighway in three hours and 15 minutes is comfort and without accident. tated, I returned by way of Pacific dighway to Portland, and it took me over four hours to make the trip. "Our" through highway to the Willamette Valley, commencing at the east line of our county to Gaston on the west, is all hard-surface road except six miles—a distance of 30 miles. Take it from me that the best through highway to the Willamette Valley is

not by the Pacific Highway nor by the Rex-Tigardville road, but by "our" through highway, and this county in all probability will continue to select its own through highways for improve-ment regardless of the "flings" of "we" -the Portland Auto Club

### JOHN M. WALL. ECONOMY IN FLAT BATE SYSTEM lution No Need of Sending Bils to Consumers

or Reading of Meters. PORTLAND, Nov. 26.—(To the Editor.)—I have read with much interest the discussion about our Water Department charging for water by meter or flat rate. In The Oregonian C. B. gives his reason for advocating the meter system. He compares the city with the big private corporations who are in business to make all the money they and since we have knocked one seemingly capable man out of the runcan, besides they have to produce what they seil, but our city corporation is not there to make money, does not produce in this case: it simply levies a tax o meet the expenses of the Water De-

It is the duty of our "business administration" to find the best and cheapest method to raise this money and there is no doubt in my mind that approach from Holladay avenue to the railroad bridge. I see they are still working at it and the approach is not yet finished. Now I would like to know why there is so much kick about line between the "ordinary house" and the "big house" could be easily es-tablished by giving the former six fau-cets and the latter the larger number. C. B. could keep his water bill down to saved. With our water and why would it not be much more businesslike to spend the \$300,000 intended for meters in bettering our water system so we do not have

Chicago Record-Herald.

"Can you direct me to the best hote! in this town?" asked the stranger, who after sadly watching the train depart, had set his satchel upon the station that set his satchel upon the station of reading meters. The wasting of water could be eliminated to a great extent by having the plumbing inspected tent by having the plumbing inspected at intervals and imposing a fine on

neglectful consumers.

### Rhodes Scholarships. INDEPENDENCE, Or., Nov. 23.—(To the Editor.)—Where may one obtain in-

telligence about the examinations for the Rhodes scholarships and about the scholarship itself? Also information regarding the Olym-

With thanks in advance for this fa-for, I am, yours very truly, R. G. G. The World Almanac, obtainable at book stores at 25 cents, contains in-

formation on the Rhodes scholarships

and gives results of the 1912 Olympic PRINEVILLE, Or., Nov. 25 .- (To the

### Twenty-five Years Ago

New York, Nov. 26.—The first storm f the Winter is still sweeping over the Atlantic Coast and the Great Lakes,

causing many shipwrecks.
Washington, Nov. 26,—Senator Quay today said the Republicans would have a majority of nine in the next House

Heppner, Or., Nov. 26 .- The Willow Creek branch of the O. R. & N. was completed to Heppner today. The last spike was driven by Hon, J. L. Morrow and Henry Heppner, the pioneers of

Albany, Or., Nov. 26 .- John Schwartz was shot dead on November 21 near Walton, on the Siuslaw, by George Montgomery, who mistook him for a bear.

Salem, Nov. 26,-The Republican city onvention tonight made the following nominations: Mayor, Mayor George Williams; Recorder, L. Conn; Marshal, James Ross; Treasurer, E. J. Swafford.

Colonel W. W. Chapman is suffering from a stroke of paralysis.

Chief of Police Parrish suggested to some friends at the Gilman House that at the smallpox hospital a Thanksgiv-ing dinner. The suggestion was taken up by S. Hinshelmer and in a few minutes he collected \$31.

The County Court yesterday gave G. W. Brown a 50 years' franchise to build a street railway along the county road known as Hawthorne avenue. He will It use two and one-half miles of the road

Ben F. Smith, of Sellwood, says that place is in favor of annexation to Portland,

St. Johns-This little town, on the east bank of the Willamette, is growing rapidly.

The constant explosions in the northern part of the city are from the clear-ing operations on the irving tract, east of Margaretta aven

## AMERICA'S DIPLOMATIC BLUNDER Strong Hand Like Huerta's Necessar; in Mexico, Says Resident.

BAKER, Or., Nov. 25 .- (To the Editor.)—Since my return from Mexico, where I spent the last two years, I have seen nothing so sensible level-headed regarding the Mexican situation as your editorial, November 24, headed "National Duty." You have scored many telling points, and have nade plain the real issues at present enting Mexic

The fallure of the United States Gov rnment to recognize Huerta within a reasonable time after he became de facto the head of the Mexican state was a diplomatic blunder and also a great injustice to Huerta himself. The man has his shortcomings and is probably capable of committing the same kind of crimes that his predecessors in the Mexican presidential chair have never hesitated at, but even so, there is noth-ing proved against him, and the charge of complicity in the murder of Madero so firmly believed in by those who know nothing whatever of Mexico and the conditions there, and flatly denied by those whose opinions are aving-Americans in Mexico Clty missicnaries, diplomatic representa-tives and others, and Huerta himself-seems to be the only real reason ad-vanced for withholding recognition.

As to his not having been constitu-ionally chosen, that is sheer nonsense. How many votes, think you, were ever cast for Juarez or Diaz or even for Ma-dero himself? Outside of Mexico City. there are not 3 per cent of the elec-torate who would ever trouble them selves to go to the polls. The auto-cratte government of the Diaz type, o course, was the result of this apathy and not the cause of it, as some would have us believe. In the present case the sad part of the whole affair is that it really seemed as if a man had arisen who, with proper support from out-side nations, might have brought back a semblance of law and order to the ountry and given the people a chanc settled conditions, but by the pure stu pidity of our Government the man's nands are tied and he can accomplish nothing towards pacification.

Let no one think that the hundred and one different bands of revolutionists now in field against Huertic have the slightest political motives in their rebellions, or desire to better conditions for the people. Half of Madero's Generals were notorious bandits and outlaws, and they were the first to turn against him when they found that the success of his revolution meant a cessation of their chances for plundering. These are the men new in the field, fighting for the "constitucion." Nothing will at this time serve the turn in Mexico but a strong military government, with an iron man at the head who can suppress brigandage, restore communications, give industry a chance, and, above all, reopen the schools and let the younger

ning, let us hope that if another should arise, our statesmen will take a some-what different view regarding selfwhat different view regarding self-government in Mexico, and realize that the rights of men come after their sense of duty and responsibility, and-not before. They will then see that Mexico has several centuries yet to go before there can be any hope of suc-cess under a real democracy.

# eal democracy. KENNETH M'EWEN. Are Your Profits On Your She ves or In

cess under a real

Your Bank? January first is approaching. It is the time when most merchants make their annual inventory. A good merchant goes through his stock with a fine-tooth comb, so to speak. He overhauls his merchandise, takes the loss on his deteriorated stock, counts

his money, and figures out exactly where he stands.

If he is fortunate, his inventory shows a profit on the year's busi-ness. But he is doubly fortunate if it shows that his profit is in his bank and not tied up in merchandisc on his shelves.

Many an otherwise prosperous business is tied hand and foot be-cause it is overloaded with merchan-The trend of retailing today is toward simplified stocks of known merchandise that move quickly and

put the profit where it belongs at the end of the year. In newspapers like The Oregonian readers can learn what to buy and where to buy it. Live manufactur-ers are helping the retailers by tell-ing the public through the daily newspapers, where their merchan-dise may be found. The retailers are helping the manufacturers in a

similar way. The benefit is mutual.

The manufacturer and the retalier are joint-partners in the crop of local sales. They co-operate in sowing the seed, in cultivating the crop. and in reaping the harvest of cash

and in reaping the darvest of case profits.

Newspaper advertising is the chief "implement" for both. The retailer uses additional "tools" in the way of counter and window displays.—Adv.