The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, MONDAY, DEC. 8, 1913.

PRIVATE SNAPS ABROAD.

The chickens of the spoils system are coming home to roost. The Santo Domingo scandal has an unusually ugly look, because the United States occupies the position of trustee to the little republic. That country in substance confessed inability to collect and dispose of its customs revenue honestly and efficiently and asked the United States to become its trustee. This Nation, on a lofty pedestal of superior virtue and efficiency, assumed the trust for its little brown brother to keep him out of the hands of his importunate creditors. We sent Jacob H. Hollander to put Santo Domingo's finances in order and to advise the republic in financial affairs. He was a financier of proved ability, chosen on that ground alone, and not for political reasons. In fact, Who's Who does not even indicate to which party he belongs. In the same spirit men have been appointed to collect the customs revenue of the republic.

But the Wilson Administration, besieged by Democrats hungry for office and to whom it owed political debts, in its search for means wherewith to pay turned to Santo Domingo. The Administration sent as Minister to that country James Mark Sullivan, whose public services seem to have consisted in defending "Jack" Rose at the Becker trial and in stumping Maine with Secretary Bryan. As receiver of customs was sent Walter W. Vick, of New Jersey, a good Wilson man, despite Dominican protests against change. Mr. Sullivan proceeded to take care of his friends by instructing Mr. Vick to transfer the government funds to the bank owned by S. M. Jarvis, and Mr. Sullivan's cousin, "Tim," soon appeared as a railroad builder for the republic at a fat salary.

If we choose to regard our own public offices as private snaps, that is our affair, but we should at least exclude the agents of our trusteeship for another country from that classification. The view taken by our wards of the conduct of the Administration was well expressed by the Dominican Finance Minister in these words:

> When we reward political service we pay for it out of our own revenues, while you provide salaries for your own politicians out of our revenues.

The Administration's handling of Santo Domingo and Governor Harrison's sweeping out of experienced, competent officials in the Philippines to make room for Democrats supply a new and cogent argument against the financial control of Nicaragua and Honduras, which was proposed by the Taft Administration, and against the protectorate of the former country, proposed by Secretary Bryan. Apparently we cannot trust ourselves not to treat the offices of Latin-American countries as our own political spoils. We are justifying the belief in those countries that, though we may not wish to annex them, we wish to annex their lucrative jobs. Unless the Administration returns to the ideal which guided Presidents Roosevelt and Taft in dealing with Santo Domingo, we would better turn that republic loose to settle its own financial troubles.

A CHANCE FOR OUR SENATORS.

Whether one or more regional reserve banks will be located on the Pacific Coast depends on which of the three currency bills now before the Senate is adopted. The House bill provides twelve or more, the Democratic Senate bill provides eight, the Hitchcock-Republican bill four. It is practically certain that, whichever number is adopted, one will be located at San Francisco. If the total number be four or eight, that will be the only one on the Pacific Coast; if there should be twelve or more, a second should be established at Portland. The decision will probably rest with the organization committee created by the House bill, composed of the Secretaries of the Treasury and Agriculture and the Comptroller of the Currency, or with the Federal Reserve Board created by all three bills.

The House says that the Federal reserve districts "shall be apportioned with due regard to the convenience and customary course of business of the community," and that the Federal reserve cities shall be designated from among the reserve and central reserve cities now existing. Those provisions point to Portland as the natural choice for the Pacific Northwest. A district extending from the Pacific Ocean to the Rocky Mountains and from the southern boundary of Oregon to the Canadian boundary would cover this city's natural field of trade, which embraces the whole Columbia basin, with the addition of the Grays Harbor and Willapa Harbor country, Southern Oregon and the coast country of Oregon. The regional reserve bank should be within one day's mail of all banking towns in its district. This would be true of Portland in relation to the territory described, but would not be true of any other city in this region having the other required qualifications. The territory remaining to San Francisco would also be within reasonable distance of that city, while if it were extended north of the Oregon-California line, some distances would be too great.

As the principal business of the regional banks will be to rediscount notes for their member-banks, it is important for the quick transaction of business that they be not too remote from any of the banking towns in their districts. That is one argument against a central bank and it is a strong argument in favor of the larger, rather than the smaller, number of regional banks proposed. Advocates of a central bank point to European countries as examples, but they overlook the element of distance. The area of the continental United States is 3,616,484 square miles, as compared with 208,830 square miles in Germany, 207,054 in France, 121,391 in the British Isles, 261,035 in Austro-Hungary. While a central bank in each of these European countries serves a larger population than would each of twelve regional banks in this country, it serves a much smaller area. Time is so important an element in banking that distance cannot safely be ignored in deciding the number of regional banks.

It is well that the attention of the Oregon Senators has been called to the need of vigilance, so that the claims of Portland be not ignored in this matter, for they may be assured that our enterprising neighbors are wide awake. Although the location of the regional banks will not be decided until after the bill is passed, others will not hesitate to assert the claims of their cities in advance of that event, and Messrs. Chamberlain and Lane should not be behind them. Oregon Senators, being in harmony with the Administration on a measure whereon every vote will count, should have much influence in molding the decision of the body which makes the selection. They have an opportunity to make good.

ADVISING THE VOTER.

More than one-half of the amendments to be voted on Tuesday have their purpose stated so clearly in the title that the ordinary voter ought to have no trouble in reaching a conclusion. Several of them, however, require explanation. This The Oregonian has attempted to give from day to day in its news and editorial columns. Today the complete list is reviewed on this page and a few words of comment made on the simple as well as the complex.

In presenting recommendations to the voters The Oregonian is following a custom that has grown up with the use of the initiative and referendum.

A newspaper's sources of information in great part are open to everyone, but there are not many electors who have the time to consult statistical records or compare amendments with sections in the charter it is proposed to change. As a matter of duty to its readers, The Oregonian, prior to every election in which measures are to be submitted, details members of its staff to study the legislative isues. Not only is information obtained from public records, but frequently competent legal opinion is sought as to the effect of proposed laws or amendments.

A summary of the results of such an investigation is given today. Every problem presented has been attacked with an open mind. There is no amendment in the list in which The Oregonian is peculiarly interested. It merely expresses its opinion as to whether each amendment is or is not for the common good.

STOP THE LEAKS.

It is a matter of record at the City Hall that some of the small contractors engaged in street improvement work have been in the clutch of loan sharks continuously for more than five years. Under the existing system of paying contractors not one dollar is forthcoming from the city until a contract has been finally completed and accepted. As a result numerous contractors, in order to meet bills for labor and materials, discount their claims against the city. The warrants when issued go to the warrant shaver. The contractor takes this loss into account in bidding on the work and the property owner thereby supports the loan shark.

The first amendment offered in Tuesday's election provides for paying contractors in part as the work progresses. A balance is to be reserved sufficient to guarantee faithful performance of the contract. It is naturally anticipated that these progress payments will relieve contractors from the necessity of hypothecating the proceeds of their contracts or borrowing money at high rates of interest. Competition for work will cause this saving to appear in the cost of improvements for which the property owner pays.

It has been a frequent practice for speculators in new outlying additions to secure the improvement of a tract, bond the property for the entire improvement and then pay no interest on installments. The bond interest and installments thereby accumulate to be paid by the lot purchaser.

In the meantime the city has given its bond on the improvement. Receiving nothing from the property the city must advance the money for interest payments, until the speculator has disposed of the tract in parcels. This money cannot be advanced without an interest cost thereon to the taxpayers in general. The first amendment on the ballot if adopted will inflict a penalty of 1 per cent on delinquents. It is good business.

The city at times has a large fund in the treasury available for the redemption of street improvement bonds, but cannot apply it owing to peculiar provisions in the charter governing the retirement of such bonds. On one occasion this fund amounted to more than $1,000,000. By banking it the city could get 2 per cent interest. But the city was paying 6 per cent on the bonds. There was a definite loss of 4 per cent interest on $1,000,000 until the dates arrived on which the bonds could be retired. The first amendment on the ballot stops this leak.

There are other features in the amendment somewhat similar. The measure is one that governs financing of street improvements only. It adds no powers to those the city now possesses to involve property in street improvements. All rights of remonstrance against the inaugurating of work or the acceptance of completed jobs are preserved. It is an economy measure and ought to be adopted.

The miners' strike at the Transvaal gold mines has called attention to the high mortality by accidents and disease. In the first three months of this year there were 269 deaths by accident and 2029 from disease, while in the ten years ending December 31, 1912, the number of natives killed by accident was 16,559, and the number who died of disease while actually working in mines was 52,200. In the last five years 32,103 natives were sent home to die. The minister of native affairs pronounced this death rate "little less than murder" and expressed a desire to emulate on the Rand the work of the Americans at Panama, where the death rate had been reduced from about fifty per thousand under French rule to less than seven per thousand. But he would have to face the opposition of the mining companies, one of which, soon after the speech quoted had been delivered, declared a dividend of 220 per cent, another a dividend of 70 per cent, while the Union-Castle Steamship Company boasted of having carried 370,000,000 pounds' worth of gold to England.

THAT DEAD SUBTERFUGE.

Post mortems on the Daly water rate plan are popular judging from several letters on the subject received by The Oregonian which cannot now be given space owing to the pressure of other matter, and out of respect for the dead, may never be printed.

But in view of Mr. Daly's belated estimate of a saving of $100,000 in one year's administration of his department through the operation of the late lamented, a passing reminder is worth while that this saving obviously would have been the product of the quarterly payment system.

In an advisory referendum the water consumers by a large majority opposed a direct quarterly payment of water charges in lieu of the existing monthly payment plan. The chief purpose of making the property instead of the consumer responsible for water rates apparently was to impose the unpopular quarterly payments under the guise of something else. Meters were to be installed, bills sent only once in three months and the property owner was not only to be constituted the involuntary collecting agent of the city, but be made the goat of a collecting system that would be oppressive on the small consumer.

If there is the reputed merit in the principle of holding the property for water charges the plan proposed was the old U'Renic scheme of coating something bad with something good in the hope the public would swallow it.

But would the plan have saved the water department $100,000 a year? What of the several hundred thousand to be spent for meters? Moreover, if $100,000 can be cut out of the clerical, printing and postage items the Daly plan is not the only one that would do it. The preparation and mailing of bills to flat rate consumers is not necessary, monthly or quarterly. Reminders could be sent to delinquents with a penalty attached sufficient to pay printing, postage and clerical cost. This penalty would soon make flat-rate water collections practically automatic. And it would not call for the expenditure for meters of four or five times the amount "saved."

UNDER THEIR OWN COLORS.

Abandonment by the California Progressives of the name of the Republican party was the only way out of an impossible situation. So long as they retained the name, they in effect confessed that they were merely trying to capture the Republican party, yet they professed an intention to organize a new party. The only logical thing to do was to abandon the old name and organize anew under another name. The way would then be open for the Progressives to make a fair, open fight with the two old parties for supremacy.

In the next election we shall be able to judge how many of those who voted at the last election for the Progressive ticket masquerading under the Republican name were really Progressives and how many were Republicans. Members of the older party will have an opportunity to vote under their own colors, which was denied them in 1912, and can show how many of them there are.

PROVIDE COAL FOR SHIPS.

In order to be fully equipped for handling the increased foreign commerce which will come to Portland when traffic through the Panama Canal is in full swing, this port should have coal bunkers on the waterfront for supplying ships at minimum cost, and with every convenience for economical handling. Cargoes of coal can be brought here from Puget Sound and British Columbia and sold to ocean vessels at prices which will effect a great saving on a voyage to those sections for coal. The colliers might also carry Portland goods north as a return cargo.

When the Alaska coalfields are opened, ships can bring coal thence for sale cheaper than, or at least as cheap as, that of the nearer mines and it has been proved of higher quality. There will then be an opening for a lucrative return trade. The timber of the Alaska coalfields is useless for structural purposes, hence lumber must be imported. Several years, at least, must elapse before the agricultural and stockgrowing districts of Alaska will be sufficiently developed to feed the large population which will grow up about the mines and railroads. All these commodities, as well as furniture, hardware and building materials, must be imported. Thus every ship bringing coal south should be able to take a full return cargo.

The prosperity and development of a port depend upon the provision of more than a deep channel, a harbor, docks and cargo. It is necessary also to provide every accommodation for ships—coal, dry docks, supply stores and shipbuilding and repair plants. The nearer complete are these facilities, the lower can freight rates be secured, and as freight rates go down, more commerce will come and more ships will be needed to carry it. The Dock Commission should see to it that coal bunkers equal to the demand are provided, by private enterprise if possible; if not, by the Commission itself. In a very few years they will be in urgent demand.

MAKING TERMS WITH ULSTER.

While Premier Asquith attempts to deprive Ulster of the means of revolt by placing an embargo on the shipment of arms into Ireland, he deprives that province of all excuse for revolt by accepting the conditions on which Ulster will agree to home rule. The real difficulty will arise when Parliament comes to define what is degrading or humiliating to Ulster. The objection is to government by an Irish Parliament and the reason for that objection is that a Catholic Nationalist majority is certain. Ulster Protestants regard this prospective result as degrading and humiliating, for it would place them under the rule of those whom they have hitherto ruled as a subject people. Mr. Asquith will find great difficulty in overcoming this objection without giving Ulster a separate government, which he has pronounced impracticable, but he may find a way.

The second Ulster condition seems to hint at future establishment of home rule for England, Scotland and Wales under the supreme authority of the imperial Parliament. The third will doubtless be provided for in the home rule bill and can be rendered more secure in the future if necessity should arise. The imperial Parliament will retain power to amend the Irish government law and, should the majority attempt to oppress Ulster, it could add new precautions. The fear of ultimate separation of Ireland from England is a chimera created by excited Unionist imaginations. The Nationalists do not ask independence; they ask only such home rule as is enjoyed by each of the American states. Only a few irreconcilable Irishmen have ever asked for independence and they are likely to find few followers when Ireland actually governs herself, while at the same time enjoying the protection of the imperial government and a voice in imperial affairs.

The approach to compromise between elements apparently so irreconcilable as the champions and opponents of home rule illustrates how the fundamental common sense of the British people guides them out of the most serious crises and breaks seemingly hopeless deadlocks. In the long run the will of the majority prevails, but by determined opposition the minority gains all that is of merit in its contention. The Unionists have known in their hearts that their talk of dismemberment of the empire through Irish home rule was buncombe, and they are coming around to acknowledgment of the fact. The Nationalists have learned by their long struggle the consequences of an attempt at total separation and will scarcely venture to make it. By the greater freedom of each member in conducting its domestic affairs the union will be strenghened and will win many supporters among those who have been accused of a desire to break it.

A bill is now before Congress limiting to three months the period during which food may be kept in cold storage, and an inquiry is to be made by the Department of Justice with a view to the prosecution of any men who have been guilty of using cold storage to foster monopoly or to enhance prices artificially. The wiser course would be to defer legislation until the inquiry has been completed. Dealers in food have asked to be heard and they are certainly entitled to a hearing. They should be able to give information useful in guiding Congress how to act. Middlemen generally are being blamed indiscriminately for misuse of cold storage; some, perhaps many, are innocent, and the blame should be placed where it belongs and nowhere else. Those who are storing food for purposes of monopoly and extortion should be punished without mercy.

By withdrawing from the Canadian border the immigration inspectors whose duty was to apprehend violators of the white slave law, Immigration Commissioner Caminetti shows his indifference to enforcement of that statute. There is a community of sentiment between Mr. Caminetti and Attorney-General McReynolds, for the latter long ago instructed his subordinates not to prosecute offenders unless they were accused of transporting women for purposes of gain. Mr. McReynolds enforced the law against Caminetti's son only when driven to it by Mr. McNab's denunciation, and neither he nor Mr. Caminetti can have any love for it. But who gave them authority to suspend its enforcement entirely? That seems to be what we have come to.

The elder Caminetti, who is Commissioner of Immigration, is touring the Coast on intent to prevent introduction of the hookworm. It is devoutly to be hoped he will succeed. Everything comes so easily in this favored region that any incentive to laziness must find the bars against its entrance.

The wireless feat of making the tick of a clock in Paris audible in Washington suggests great possibilities. A wireless attachment might enable the operator to ring all the alarm clocks in a city and the manager of a big industry might wake all his employes without getting out of bed.

Oxford seems about to elect a university man Mayor—an evidence that the thousand-year-old feud between "town and gown" is dead. The man who seems sure of electon is Rev. William E. Sherwood, master of arts of Magdalen College.

Poultrymen in the vicinity of Quinaby are mistaken in disapproval of Mr. Howard's plan of a skunk farm. Once he concentrates the odoriferous chicken thieves, one source of the poultryman's troubles will cease.

Asked what were the politics of a new appointee, Mayor Kline, of New York, answered: "I'm sure I don't know." What has come over New York, anyhow, that it tolerates a man so indifferent to its chief industry?

An eminent architect questions the value of huge central railroad stations, on the ground that "a gyratory system of transportation" has been found desirable in our streets. Did he ever try the old Belt Line horse cars?—New York World.

Why not try the merry-go-round?

Who knows but what Johnny Mann's young son Maurice will in years to come be a naturalist of renown? Taking all the prizes on guinea pigs is a good start.

In the three counties of Idaho—Ada, Canyon and Washington—where irrigation is nearest perfection, fruit shipments this season were of more than a million dollars in value.

Willing Spencer has been transferred from the embassy at Berlin to the legation at Caracas. Surely he belied his name when he got the news.

Since the basic unit of the cord of wood is a four-foot stick, the State Sealer need find little difficulty in locating undermeasurement.

College theorists are teling why the delinquent hen should lay, but Professor Dryden is an exception. The hens lay for him.

The Corvallis department can put out a fire, though it wrecks itself in the performance.

The Sheriff of Cowlitz County is a better getter of outlaws than the nine Utah officers.

The parcel post is becoming more and more a people's service.

New York is not a big enough field for Dr. Brougher.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Recommendations Made on 15 Changes in City Charter to Be Presented to Voters in Election Tuesday, December 9.

The Oregonian presents herewith its recommendations on the several amendments to be submitted to vote of the people tomorrow.

For the purpose of brevity titles are condensed but the first few words of each title are given to aid accurate identification:

An act to amend the city charter of Portland by adding thereto two sections defining the word improvement, etc.
100. Yes.
101. No.

This amendment merely changes the present details of financing street improvements. It gives no added authority to the Council to involve private property in any form of improvement. Its purpose is to stop numerous leaks of money in the form of interest payments, and overhead charges which are now taxed against the property owner. It is a measure of economy.

Vote 100 Yes.

An act to amend section 128 of the city charter so as to except the City Engineer and Superintendent of Parks from the provisions requiring all municipal officers to be registered voters of the city.
102. Yes.
103. No.

The purpose of this amendment is clear. It is to authorize the city to employ a city engineer or park superintendent who may not be a resident of Portland. It is perhaps a principle of commission government that the city should be free to go into the world's markets for employes having technical knowledge and experience. Against it is opposed local pride and the probability that competent men for these positions are obtainable in Portland. The Oregonian believes that the latter is the case.

Vote 103 No.

An act to amend the charter of the City of Portland so to exempt the City Engineer and Superintendent of Parks from the provision that such officers shall be citizens of the United States, etc.
104. Yes.
105. No.

This is a companion of the preceding amendment. Two amendments of the same import are required because the restriction on appointments occurs in two sections of the charter. The same reasons for approving or rejecting apply.

Vote 105 No.

An amendment to section 3 of the city charter so as to accept the limitations of governmental power contained in the state constitution and criminal laws.
106. Yes.
107. No.

The governmental powers of the city are now limited by charter to those prescribed by the constitution and civil law instead of criminal law. The change is said to be technical, but The Oregonian confesses that it does not understand its necessity. The present charter provision was contained in the 1903 charter, under which the city exerted governmental powers without disaster or serious handicap.

No recommendation.

An act to amend section 317 of the city charter in relation to civil service.
108. Yes.
109. No.

This amendment merely changes the order of the eligible list so that employes losing positions through no fault of their own may be reappointed in the order of their efficiency rating instead of the order of their discharge. It is a measure to promote efficiency.

Vote 108 Yes.

An act to amend the city charter of Portland by adding thereto two sections providing for a Municipal Court, etc.
110. Yes.
111. No.

The amendment plans a reform in judicial procedure by perfecting methods of appeal from the Municipal Court. It also constitutes the Municipal Court a Morals Court. It creates no new offices.

Vote 110 Yes.

An act to amend that portion of the charter of Portland which requires at least one week to elapse between the introduction and final passage of any ordinance.
112. Yes.
113. No.

The amendment changes the period between introduction and final passage from "one week" to "six days." The effect of the existing section is to postpone final action for two weeks instead of one. The measure will facilitate the work of the Council.

Vote 112 Yes.

An act to amend that portion of the city charter of Portland which authorizes the city to issue and sell public utility certificates.
114. Yes.
115. No.

This measure permits the Council at will to mortgage any existing public utility, such as the water system, for extension or enlargement. It is apparently designed to raise money without recourse to bonding proposals which the voters have and are determined to curtail. It has no limitations and is indefinite to a dangerous point.

Vote 115 No.

An act to amend section 306 of the city charter so as to exclude the Superintendent of Parks and the secretary of each Commissioner from civil service.
116. Yes.
117. No.

Civil service by embracing these positions goes to extremes. Each Commissioner should have a secretary in personal accord with him.

Vote 116 Yes.

An act to amend the city charter of Portland so as to provide that the Council only in the transaction of legislative business shall act by ordinance.
118. Yes.
119. No.

This amendment permits the Council to transact judicial business by resolution or motion and leaves legislative business only to be done by ordinance. Judicial business involves such acts as vacating a street, making a special assessment, passing on objections as to assessments, exercising discretion in passing on saloon license locations and character of applicants and similar matters. It is a measure to facilitate the work of the Council.

Vote 118 Yes.

An act to amend the charter of the City of Portland by adding thereto a section relating to bond issues.
120. Yes.
121. No.

This measure confers authority on the Council to sell municipal bonds in small denominations by popular subscriptions and is a needed provision.

Vote 120 Yes.

An act to amend the charter of the City of Portland by adding thereto a section providing a bond issue of $50,000 for a municipal paving plant.
122. Yes.
123. No.

While primarily designed as a repair plant the amendment permits its conversion into a general paving institution. The chief objection to this measure is that the need is not yet pressing for a repair plant. It is something the city can get along without until the city's financial condition warrants going into debt for a new enterprise.

Vote 123 No.

An act to amend the charter of the City of Portland by adding thereto a new section for the issuance of $25,000 in bonds for a public market.
124. Yes.
125. No.

The Oregonian believes that provision should have been made in the budget for a public market. But the need for one is pressing and the bond issue is therefore reluctantly given indorsement.

Vote 125 Yes.

An act to amend the charter by adding thereto a new section authorizing the issuance of $200,000 for park improvements.
126. Yes.
127. No.

In view of this year's high tax levy and also because the amendment is complicated by the addition of a section establishing a precedent for the assessment of park improvement benefits to nearby property this bond issue is opposed.

Vote 127 No.

An act to amend an act adopted June 2, 1913, establishing a firemen's relief and pension fund.
128. Yes.
129. No.

This amendment permits the pensioning of firemen disabled in service prior to the adoption of the act. It applies to only two firemen, who seem to be as much entitled to the benefits of a pension as those who may hereafter be disabled. It is an act of justice.

Vote 128 Yes.

WILLING TO TRUST CITY COUNCIL

Realty Board Replies to Criticism of Public Market Bond Issue.

PORTLAND, Dec. 5.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian December 5, "Taxpayer" expresses his disapproval of the bond issue for public markets. Now who is "Taxpayer?" Why doesn't he come out in the open and fight the bond issue under his own name? Is he afraid to back up his letter for business reasons?

The writer has looked in vain for "Taxpayer's" name in the telephone or city directory, it having been supplied by The Oregonian. With his home in a postoffice box, he feels called upon to argue against this much-needed market. It looks to me as if the interests that have always lined up against a public market and heretofore have been successful in defeating any such proposition might come out in the open and wage fair fight.

The matter of public markets is of the utmost importance at this time, and every man and woman voter should for their own good vote for the public market bonds. The only remedy for high prices on farm produce is the public market, where consumer meets producer. This is proved by the experience of other cities, shown by the evidence subjoined to this letter.

"Taxpayer" seems to be afraid to trust the present Council in directing the operation of the public market. In reply I would say that no public market can be a success unless controlled by the city and run under the city's supervision. The Realty Board is willing to leave the details of operation to the Council. What we do want is some tangible evidence that we are going to get a public market and then it will be time to suggest methods of control.

There are several so-called public markets in this city at the present time, but all are private enterprises and not run in any way like a municipal market will be. The so-called Italian market on the East Side is a private institution and no produce is sold to consumers. Prices are fixed by mutual agreement and all produce sold to the peddlers.

Now don't be misled by articles which on the surface seem to be friendly to public markets, but which under the surface condemn the proposed bond issue of $25,000 for markets, one to be on the Market block on the West Side and the other on the East Side.

Let's not worry at this time how the market is going to be governed, but let's all get out and vote for the market bonds, if we vote for no other bonds on the ballot.

N. H. ATCHISON,
Chairman Public Market Committee of the Portland Realty Board.

Medford—The market at Medford has been a success from the start. The public is satisfied. The market means a living to many growers and a big saving to the consumer.—E. J. Runyard, Market Master.

Los Angeles.—Approximately 2000 persons attended the opening of our three municipal markets today. Farmers sold out before 9 o'clock. Actual sales at the market and the stores on the opening day show a saving of 50 per cent on purchases made at the market.—From The Oregonian, May 3, 1913.

Seattle.—Dependent on whom you are interviewing, the saving to consumer is from 30 to 50 per cent. The spectacle of at least 50,000 shoppers crowding through the two public markets of Seattle on Saturday afternoon and evening seemed acceptable evidence that these trade marts had accomplished their purpose. Commission men admit that the public market has broken their control in making prices on garden stuff.—Mark Woodruff in The Oregonian.

The installation of public markets in cities reduces the cost of all foodstuffs and especially fruit, vegetables and meat from 25 to 30 per cent. The cost of living in Indianapolis is that much lower on account of our public markets.—Address of William L. Taylor, ex-City Attorney of Indianapolis, in speech before our Mayor and Commissioners, August 7, 1913.

I have always strongly favored public markets and have advocated them consistently. I am very earnest, not only for one but for three or four.—Mayor Albee in letter to Public Market Committee of Realty Board.

The Secret of Baldness.

Dr. Woods Hutchinson in Common Diseases.

The actual condition of the scalp and of the hair has very much less to do with the health of the latter than is popularly supposed. The bulbs of the roots of the hair go down completely through the skin and into the fatty layer which lies between it and the skull, and the thing that to the expert eye is really significant of the prospect as to progress or cure in a particular case of baldness is not the condition, or color, or cleanliness of the scalp, but the thickness or thinness of this fatty layer which underlies it.

So long as this is present and the scalp is freely movable over the skull, there is hope of restoring a reasonable growth of hair; but when this fat has been absorbed and the shiny scalp sticks as closely to the skull as the cover on a baseball, the outlook is practically hopeless. This, of course, shows at once the futility of most of the local applications to and manipulations of the scalp, from which it suffers untold torments in those who are or imagine themselves to be becoming bald.

Why He Refused.

A young theologian named Fiddle
Refused to accept his degree.
"For," said he, "'tis enough to be Fiddle
Without being Fiddle, D. D."
—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of Dec. 8, 1888.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The House went into committee of the whole on the bill to incorporate Nicaragua Canal Company.

Salem, Dec. 7.—B. S. Arnold, president of the State Agricultural College at Corvallis, was in the city today, making arrangements for a farmers' institute.

Salem, Dec. 7.—Hon. D. J. Pendleton, ex-County Commissioner and a member of the last House from Marion County, died at his home near Butteville this morning.

Olympia, Dec. 7.—The Olympia & Grays Harbor Electric Company has made telephone connection with Kamilchie and Shelton in Mason County, and Elma, Montesano, Cosmopolis, Aberdeen and Hoquiam. The first message from Hoquiam was received yesterday.

Trouble is again brewing in the First Regiment, O. N. G. This time the scene of battle is in Company C, the newly organized company.

Superintendent Wetzell has inaugurated a series of competitive reviews in the public schools of East Portland. The first was conducted Thursday afternoon. The subject was spelling.

The new coach on the Sunnyside railway is very nice and comfortable, but those who travel on it would like a heater these cold mornings.

George P. Lent, Philo Holbrook and James Short, viewers of a new county road from Mann's place below town to the Pilkington place in Washington County, went over the line of the road on Thursday, accompanied by Supervisor Redman.

About 6:30 last evening fire was discovered in the second story of Willis & Co.'s millinery store in C. A. Alisky's building on Morrison street, near Third. The fire was soon extinguished. Smoke drove four girls from Roenicke's box factory on the fourth floor. Sallie Lamb, thinking the elevator had reached the top, stepped into the shaft and broke her right arm. The other girls slid down the rope and burned their hands.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of Dec. 7, 1863.

"The members of the state union central committee are requested to meet in Salem on Wednesday, the 6th day of January next. Questions in regard to the time and place of holding a state convention will be presented for consideration. John H. Moores, chairman." The purpose of the convention will be the nomination of a candidate for the next Congress and for State Printer, probably also the election of delegates to the National convention to nominate a candidate for the Presidency.

Rev. C. S. Kingsley, of this city, was to preach at Bannock November 22. A man by the name of Brady was amusing himself and the other Bannocks by walking, on a bet, 100 consecutive hours without rest or sleep.

A report is given by parties recently up from Auburn that a party of prospectors somewhere between the Owyhee and Malheur, while out hunting for their horses, came across a band of 16 Indians and, taking it for granted that they had stolen the horses, disarmed and killed the whole party. The horses were soon after discovered unmolested. The scalps were displayed in Auburn.

The editor of the Eugene Review says he saw last week about 1000 pounds of specimen rock, taken from the lodes on Blue River, and also from a lode on the McKenzie several miles below the mouth of the Blue.

The fire department election yesterday was very quiet. The total vote was 167. Mr. Buchtel received 94 and Mr. Bothwell 71 for chief engineer. For assistant Mr. Jaretsky received 149, scattering 16. W. D. Carter was elected second assistant.

W. C. Hicklin, who resides near this city, has received a letter from his brother, H. H. Hicklin, also an old resident here, who was taken prisoner at Chickamauga and conveyed to Richmond prison.

ARMORY PLAN IS NOT FEASIBLE

What Is Needed in an Auditorium Is Outlined by Writer.

PORTLAND, Dec. 7.—(To the Editor.)—In reference to the article in The Oregonian Sunday relative to converting the Armory into a public auditorium, I would like to say that, in my opinion, the location of the auditorium is of secondary importance. What is the first essential is an auditorium as near perfect from an artistic standpoint as possible, i. e., with fine acoustics and a building that will be a credit and an advertisement to the city.

I know of several made-over buildings that have not been a success, and do not see why Portland should think of going to so expensive an experiment.

Any convention that we are likely to have here could be taken care of in a building with 4000 seating capacity, and such a building could be made a success from an artistic standpoint.

I recommended to the reorganized Rose Festival Association at one of their lunches that a musical festival be given in the Armory in connection with the display of roses there next Rose Festival, say with an orchestra of 75, assisted by soloists and a chorus of 100, all Portland people. I realized then that the Armory was not the place for such a performance, but the only one available.

We get the great singers and players here all the time, we have our Symphony Orchestra, we have the material for a fine military band, we have some excellent organists, besides singers who are known across the continent, but we have conventions and auto shows only once in a long while. So, let us have an auditorium where a speaker, a singer or a violinist can be heard perfectly in every part of the hall.

GEORGE E. JEFFERY.
230 Shaver street.

When a Man's Married

When a man's married a great many things may happen to him, but one of the best things that can fall to his lot is to have a home wherein The Oregonian is the family newspaper—the guide, philosopher and friend of the household.

The Oregonian will be all of that if given the opportunity. Through its advertising columns it will put pure food and drink on his table; it will place correctly-fashioned garments upon his back, a well-shaped hat upon his head, good shoes upon his feet; it will tell him how and where to build his house and how to furnish and paint it; it tells him how to save money and how to invest his savings; it points the way in a hundred lines of every-day activity; and, if he will let it, it will be the best all-round friend he has, next to his wife.

The best way to be friends with The Oregonian and its advertising columns is to take it home every day and accept the help it offers you.—Adv.