

The Oregonian

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Portland, Thursday, Jan. 29, 1914.

MAKING A GREAT PORT.

Portland is inclined to think that it is expending great sums in improving its channel and in building docks, but in order to view our work in correct perspective we must consider what other ports are doing. Where are we to do in order to attain equality with Portland in channel depth and with other ports in dock facilities.

London's supremacy as the world's chief port has been threatened by the rise of Hamburg, Liverpool, Southampton, Havre, and other neutral ports on its commerce. The old port authority, the Thames Conservancy Board, had power and resources too limited to accomplish much. The channel was shallow in many places and the docks were passing out of date as they were built and facilities. Parliament created a new body named the Port of London Authority, which has jurisdiction over about 100 miles of the course of the river and practically the whole navigable channel, which has large borrowing power. The Authority has surveyed the whole river from Teddington to the Nore and has begun execution of plans involving expenditure of \$70,000,000. These include dredging to a depth of thirty feet at low water from the Nore to the Albert Docks, twenty feet thence to Greenland Dock, sixteen feet to Thames Tunnel and fourteen feet to London Bridge, a total distance of forty-seven miles and a follow-up program of \$20,000,000 for the removal of 1,000,000 cubic yards of material in addition to the constantly accumulating silt.

There were under construction in the year 1913 additions and improvements to the docks costing \$18,750,000. Docks are being built on the river by the tide, the range of Spring tides being seventeen feet at Southend and twenty-one and one-half feet at London Bridge, while that of neap tides is thirteen feet at the former and seventeen feet at the latter place. At London Dock the passages are being widened and deepened and a jetty 800 by 150 feet is being constructed and covered with a two-story shed. At West India Dock two of the quay walls are being widened and three great sheds erected. At East India Docks the entrance passages are being widened and deepened, great sheds erected and pumping plant installed. A new dock is being constructed at the Royal Albert Docks, having six-hundred feet of quay and an entrance of one mile of quay and an entrance of 800 feet long and forty-five feet deep, while another dock is being enlarged. A cold storage-house to hold 250,000 carcasses is being erected with transit sheds and sorting floors at these docks, while a further cold storage house for 75,000 carcasses is being erected near Smithfield Market. At Tilbury the main dock is being extended 1811 feet, transit sheds erected for a further 1000 feet, and a jetty constructed 1000 feet long.

The Thames does not compare with the Columbia in natural advantages and tributary productive country, but improvement begun by the Dames over thousands of years ago has been continued and has given London the greatest commerce in the world. By much smaller proportionate expenditure Portland can secure a broader, deeper channel and equal dock facilities. We have the present and potential commerce to justify a much larger expenditure, it was necessary. When we consider our great opportunities and compare them with London has achieved with much less expenditure, it seems we have spent and are spending on jetties, dredging and docks seem beggarly.

WHAT THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAVE DONE.

Often the best friends of the public schools are their severest critics. Their enemies are not silent critics and between the wounds of friends and foes it sometimes seems as if the little red schoolhouse, with all it stands for, were doomed to go under. That the public school system ought to be made better than it is, and that it should be made better than it is, is a truth that ought to be destroyed is a thought which no good American would tolerate for a moment.

The national plan is to make the schools as good as possible in every way, both by spending more money upon them and by raising the quality of the teaching force. With all their faults the schools have accomplished wonderful things for the American people since the public schools were founded in the last forty years. They have educated 90,000,000 boys and girls, according to figures given out by the Federal commissioner of education. In the same interval they have reduced the illiteracy of the country from twenty-two to seven in the hundred.

Among the negroes the schools have done still better work. They have reduced illiteracy from ninety-five in the hundred to the point where the foreign immigrants the percentage of illiteracy has gone down to twelve. These statistics show conclusively enough that the public schools are genuine bulwarks of our liberties. For liberty is not a thing that is won by force, but it is a thing that is won by the people and in the modern world there can be little effective intelligence without the ability to read and write.

An illiterate person may in exceptional instances attain to some success in life and be, upon the whole, a worthy citizen, but such instances are so rare that we may neglect them. As a rule an illiterate person is defective both in mind and morals.

It has always been the ambition of the American people to give every child an opportunity to acquire the fundamentals of human knowledge. They have sought to attain this pur-

pose through the common schools and within the limits of human achievement they have done what they set out to do.

SOME EARLY FIGURES.

The Oregonian will make no attempt to interpret the 1914 registration figures for Multnomah County, since they are quite incomplete and the results before the books close may be much modified. But it is well enough to show what the surface indications are to suggest that something or other ought to be done by somebody or other if (1) the women are to display an appropriate interest; (2) the Progressive party is to survive; (3) the Republican party is not to perish from the earth; and (4) the Democrats are to abandon their old habit of registering in large numbers as Republicans.

The men are registering more numerously than the women—nearly four to one. Why do not the women register? Was the old-time contention of the anti-suffragists that only a small part of the women wanted the ballot well founded?

The Republicans outnumber the Democrats three to one; but in no other county has such proportion been maintained. Why do the Democrats—or some of them—continue to be ashamed of their own party?

The Progressive registration is one of the things that are being talked about by the party who once stood at Armageddon?

MARTYRS OF THE 'SYSTEM.'

Tim Healey is a veteran of the Spanish-American War and a special officer of the law. Three months ago he was married. All his life he has been a good citizen, a faithful friend and a deserving worker. Now he is being shot by the 'system' with his weeping bride on his side, and a shocked community stirred by his untimely fate. He was shot by a vagabond in the performance of a policeman's duty.

The man who shot him, one Louis Stros, was himself shot by Healey, who discovered him prowling about Portland Heights with a companion. When Healey, in the pursuit of his duty, demanded that the strangers give an accounting to him, pistols were drawn, and two men are near death as a result.

Now there is an appeal for Stros and, impliedly, against Healey and the law, because Stros was one of the unemployed. Stros was in the 'army' that marched upon Salem. Then he came to Portland and joined a follow-up party in a scheme of burglary. "What kind of a country is this," he is reported as saying, "where a man can neither eat, sleep nor be sheltered, and where a man is forced to commit burglary to keep body and soul together?"

It is not such a country. It is despicable and detestable that there are individuals and newspapers that clamor loudly and continuously that it is. They blame the 'system' indiscriminately for the sins and misdeeds of individuals. Stros was a loafer and an idler, jailed many times for vagrancy. Undoubtedly he would not work. But he had a pistol and he attempted burglary and when thwarted he promptly committed murder.

Who shall be held accountable for crime—by the criminal? Who is to blame for sin but the sinner? Yet we have fallen on times when society and civilization are indicted for the misdeeds of individuals and men who tell and obey the laws, moral and civil, are held to be in a gigantic conspiracy against men who will not work.

POOR HEALEY! POOR MRS. HEALEY!

Another 'NO' ELECTION. Before good money is expended in initiating amendments for governmental novelties the proponents may find it profitable to glance over the prospective direct legislation ballot, hark to the noise of the campaign for office already beginning and recall what has happened in the past to voters of the Oregonian.

The initiative ballot has a fair start with ten state-wide measures submitted to the voters by the Legislature. Definite work by the direct route has commenced on six more, a list of which will be published in the two columns of The Oregonian. Tuesday. Not mentioned therein as probabilities or possibilities are three measures from the anti-saloon element—a prohibition amendment, a prohibition statute and a repeal of the home rule amendment. Mr. Bourne's bill to prohibit paid petition circulating and two or three others of similar import; an amendment to abolish the State Senate, and a measure to do something or other to water-front titles in Portland.

The list thus already gives promise of exceeding twenty-five in number, notwithstanding the fact that the general election ballot has by special election been cleared of five referendums. As a United States Senator, a Governor, a Representative in each Congressional district, members of the Legislature, Justice of the Supreme Court, several state officers and a large number of county officers are to be elected, voters will have much to think about aside from lawmaking.

It has been very plainly demonstrated that a long ballot means a generally negative vote on initiated and referred measures. Legislation really wise, and that is the position taken by the public is annoyed by the noisy clamor of a hobby-wedded minority, while freak bills thus advertised have scant prospect of enactment. What is the use? How many rebukes must the people give to pernicious law tinkering before it is ended?

STANDING PAT FOR PINDELL.

The Senate has decided that if Henry M. Pindell is the kind of man President Wilson wishes to send to Russia as his representative he is welcome to that kind of a man and the Senate will not interfere with his wishes. That is the position taken by the committee on foreign relations in recommending and by the Senate in granting confirmation. The Senate cannot thus evade its share of the responsibility. The Senate's inquiry showed these facts to be more damaging than those which have been published and they prompted Chairman Bacon to criticize the nomination. Mr. Pindell admitted to members of the committee that he did not expect to remain long in the diplomatic service, thus corroborating the impression created by Senator Lewis' letter that his appointment is

designed only to give him a year's travel in Europe with all the perquisites and prestige of an Ambassador. That letter was said by Mr. Pindell to be even more remarkable than the one which was published and which Mr. Lewis denounced as a forgery.

Letters written by Mr. Pindell to Representative Stone, of his district, concerning appointment of postmasters were also condemned. Mr. Burton saying they undoubtedly suggested a plan to use postmasters in promoting business for Mr. Pindell's newspaper. Mr. Wilson cannot escape an iota of responsibility, for he had seen these letters before he sent the nomination to the Senate.

The President's persistence in the face of the revelations which have been made is in line with his disposition to "bull things through," once he is committed to action. He displayed this disposition in accepting Mr. McNab's resignation and in retaining Mr. McReynolds and William B. Wilson in his Cabinet and Mr. Caminetti at the head of the immigration bureau. He is a new kind of standpatter and the fact is not to his credit.

FOOLING THE READER.

"Confessions of a Successful Man," which the Saturday Evening Post has been publishing in installments, came to something of a climax in last week's number. Giving him a title which is appropriate to a "Goldfish," "successful man" proceeds to describe the education he received in his boyhood and to point out how it might have been improved upon. The incautious reader must not imagine that this individual was successful in anything but money-making. He married a wife long years ago, but she never has been a helpmeet to him. Her part in his life has been to bear three children and spend large sums of his money. Beyond her capacity for those duties he knows nothing about her. His children, two girls and a boy, are even more strange to him than his wife. Occasionally he meets the latter at home and even stops to speak to her, but the children, who are now grown, only come home to sleep and not always for that. They are as far from their father as he is concerned, in the whirlpool of society. It is doubtful if he would readily recognize them on the street.

They are educated, polished, efficient for their parts in the world, but one of the things that is most remarkable amongst them. The son is a successful lawyer like his father. He has a desk in a prosperous firm's offices and manages to make a good deal of money first and last. Just how he does it his father cannot explain, but the son has done what his father's ability. The father who purports to write the articles for the Post, makes about \$50,000 a year by his law practice. From what he tells of his knowledge and general capacity it is difficult to believe that he could do anything but a very poor job to help him. But he comes of good family and has hereditary friends who give him business, so that fees accumulate. The practice of such a lawyer in New York consists of drawing up wills, arranging transfers and so on. It requires no oratory or legal arguments in court and scarcely any publicity. It is purely machine work, so that after all even a man as incompetent as our author depicts himself might manage to do it for a living. His principal complaint is against the education he received, which, he believes, is far less satisfactory than his father's was in the good old days of plain living and high thinking. He says, "I was an imitation educated man, but I was not a real one. I was a counterfeit good counterfeiter to pass current for what" he pretended to be. Apart from a little Latin and some considerable training in English composition he confesses that "he had no culture at all."

It now appears likely that the Administration will lift its embargo on arms for the benefit of Mexican rebels. Which is a most effective way of storing up future trouble for ourselves.

In estimating the height of women at the San Francisco registration booth, the height of the public penitentiary was a matter of only a few cents each year. Public penitentiaries built California and Washington ahead of Oregon. Littleness and penuriousness are the hallmarks of Oregon's state, and it is not probable that she alone could keep her in the low ranks.

Any citizen of Oregon who would do anything to improve the condition of either of our state institutions is sadly lacking in public spirit. Let us stop acting as a public penitentiary, and let us have our state institutions and our public buildings and our public works under the control of the people, and let us have our state institutions and our public buildings and our public works under the control of the people, and let us have our state institutions and our public buildings and our public works under the control of the people.

The Japanese are said to be furnishing Huerta with arms. But those little 25 caliber Japanese army guns would hardly inconvenience a coarsely-grained Mexican rebel.

Election petitions may no longer be circulated in corridors of the Courthouse. It will now be possible to complete a brief business visit there in one day.

General Kuropatkin has challenged a newspaper writer to fight. The offending editor must have referred to that "I regret to report" episode.

In celebrating his sixty-fifth birthday, Samuel Gompers is subject of congratulation for the good work he has done in the past generation.

In the interest of an early Spring, Mr. Beals is asked to continue the bad weather until Tuesday at least. This is a ground-hog case.

The growth of graft is insidious and the City Council very properly declines to pay for telephones in the homes of employees.

The President of Haiti is now a fugitive. Thought the Wilson policy in Mexico was going to put a stop to that sort of thing.

probabilities. It would have been more polite to the public to adopt some other device.

The Interstate Commerce Commission is apparently preparing the way for that advance in freight rates by showing some of the railroads how they can increase their revenue without outside help. It is just as well that the ground be cleared of syndicate operations like those of the Frisco officials and of excessive allowances to industrial railroads before the main question is touched. We need to get down to bottom facts on not merely what the earnings are, but what they should be at present rates under economical and impartial management.

An Eastern contemporary well says that better rural schools must precede any real movement back to the land. Country homes are often broken up to give the children an education in the city. It is possible to have model schools in the country, but only by combining the resources of several districts for each school. This obliges some of the children to go a long distance daily and requires some sort of transportation. Thus we land once more in the good old problem, which is basic everywhere.

We fear the Montana rancher who has pledged his troth to Miss Virtue, the suffragette, will have to wait a long time for his wife. They are to be married as soon as English women get the right to vote, which the immediate future holds out no promise. Miss Virtue is at present pining in a dungeon deep and damp for refusing to move on when a London policeman so ordered. We suppose her lover hold is musing his gallant cowboy to rescue her. Here's wishing him luck.

A newspaper publisher yesterday testified before a Congressional committee that the Canadian government paid him \$42,000 a year for publishing stories to allure immigrants across the border. That is a high price to pay for much of the immigration. On the other hand, this country gets the brightest and best young men and women of Canada for the mere price of a welcome and opportunity to prosper.

After what the Senate committee learned of dictatorial rule during the West Virginia coal strike, it is as well that there should be inquiry into marital law in Michigan and Colorado. We need to guard against drifting into absurdity in the matter of public necessity, for a dictator always makes that the excuse for perpetuating his rule. It is but a step from public necessity to divine right.

Three Bull Moose out of the local party are being sixteen are seeking work for the benefit of Oregonians. But such figures are not reliable. The great body of Progressives is overwhelmed with modesty—after their leader. P. S.—A long way after.

It is erroneous to suggest that bossism ruled the Progressive nomination convention. Since the total attendance was but sixteen, the worst charge that might arise must necessarily be that of straw-bossism.

The New York grafters kept a book to record distributions of pite. They may also have a card index of highway and canal contractors who contributed graft, for they are business-like grafters.

There are three things due—the end of the world, free locks at Oregon City and a new postoffice building at Portland. It is devout to be hoped the other two beat the first.

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LIBRARY FLOOR PLAN CRITICISED.

Portland, Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—Although we have in Portland a better building for our Public Library than any other Pacific Coast city, I believe that local citizens would approve any effort to overcome the present inadequacy of the circulation room. This department should have been improved by exchanging the old building, but if any change has occurred, it has been for the worse. The circulation room is a narrow, crowded, and unattractive place. It is a disgrace to the city and a disgrace to the library. It is a disgrace to the city and a disgrace to the library. It is a disgrace to the city and a disgrace to the library.

Daylight enters this circulation-room through windows in the south wall, and falls on the books against the north wall. The light is very bright and very hot. It is a disgrace to the city and a disgrace to the library. It is a disgrace to the city and a disgrace to the library. It is a disgrace to the city and a disgrace to the library.

I do not wish this to be construed as an attack on the corps of librarians or attendants. I have found them courteous, efficient and willing to please. I do not wish this to be construed as an attack on the corps of librarians or attendants. I have found them courteous, efficient and willing to please. I do not wish this to be construed as an attack on the corps of librarians or attendants. I have found them courteous, efficient and willing to please.

H. C. SCHAFFERT, 749 Water street.

UNIVERSITY EQUIPPED FOR WORK.

EUGENE, Or., Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—A recent article in your paper states that the University of Oregon is not equipped for the work of higher education. This is a gross misstatement. The University of Oregon is one of the best equipped universities in the West. It has a fine faculty, a fine library, and a fine campus. It is one of the best equipped universities in the West.

The fact is, Oregon educates her students at the lowest cost. It is one of the best equipped universities in the West. It has a fine faculty, a fine library, and a fine campus. It is one of the best equipped universities in the West.

We fear "Granger" is sailing under false colors, in preaching economy and closing the eyes with a variety of moving of the university to Corvallis. That would be very expensive. It would greatly increase expenses. It would injure both institutions and give the state nation-wide notoriety of a very bad character. The action announced by the Board would incur little expense that it would not be a matter of dollars and cents to most taxpayers. It would be a matter of a few cents each year. Public spirit built California and Washington ahead of Oregon. Littleness and penuriousness are the hallmarks of Oregon's state, and it is not probable that she alone could keep her in the low ranks.

Any citizen of Oregon who would do anything to improve the condition of either of our state institutions is sadly lacking in public spirit. Let us stop acting as a public penitentiary, and let us have our state institutions and our public buildings and our public works under the control of the people, and let us have our state institutions and our public buildings and our public works under the control of the people.

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The growth of graft is insidious and the City Council very properly declines to pay for telephones in the homes of employees.

DREDGING FOR BIGGER PORTLAND.

Portland, Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—Occasionally, some without due regard for the fact that the population of the city is increasing, and that the water level is rising, they suggest that the city should be dredged. This is a gross misstatement. The city is already one of the best equipped cities in the West. It has a fine harbor, a fine city, and a fine campus. It is one of the best equipped cities in the West.

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The President of Haiti is now a fugitive. Thought the Wilson policy in Mexico was going to put a stop to that sort of thing.

Rhode Island, about as small as states are made, is facing a deficit that would hardly feaze an Oregon county.

Jerusalem will have trolley cars and electric lights. For a young city Jerusalem certainly has a progressive spirit.

A Japanese farmer sent Secretary Bryan a radish. Recently, also, a Jap in Tokio cabled him a lemon.

It's a wonder Winter day now in Portland when we don't get a peep at the sun.

Twenty-five Years Ago

From the Oregonian of January 27, 1889. Salons, Jan. 28.—Simon, of Multnomah, and Tongue, of Washington, had a tilt on the Portland water bill in the Senate this afternoon.

Tacoma, Jan. 28.—M. C. Sullivan, of Portland, with a force of men employed by the city, arrived today and says work has been resumed.

Seattle, Jan. 28.—William Walker today sold to J. J. O'Connor, of Elmira, N. Y., a lot on Front street, between Marion and Columbia, for \$50,000.

Washington, Jan. 28.—McComas, of Maryland, offered an amendment in the House to the sundry civil bill appropriating \$50,000 for the education of children in Alaska. He said Congress had been negligent in its treatment of Alaska.

Constable Aleck Keegan has been indisposed for several days with a cold. Simon Harris returned yesterday from the East and California.

A band of journalists, composed of N. J. Levinson, Will H. Parry and Portland Egan, took flight for the Sound last night. They are expected to return here in hopes of going to the Sound—when they die.

There were 578 round-trip tickets sold on the Portland & Vancouver Railway last Sunday, which was 78 more than ever sold before on one day.

Dr. E. A. Jones will supply his two new cottages on the motor line, south of Lewis & Clark, by means of a windmill and an elevated tank.

R. L. Polk & Co., publishers of the Portland city directory, estimate the population at about 48,000.

In about 10 days the remaining clerks of the auditing and treasury departments will go home. They include F. O. Helms, auditor of freight and ticket accounts; J. L. Wicklerham, bookkeeper, and Max Crandall.

Adjutant W. P. Kapsus and Lieutenant Halloran, of the First Washington Territory Infantry, have tendered their resignations.

Washington, Jan. 18.—The House committee on territories will soon report on a bill authorizing state governments in Colorado and Nevada. A new constitution of Nevada will be adopted by Congress.

The citizens of Oregon City are to give a festival tomorrow evening in aid of the sanitary commission. The Mechanics' Band and the band of the steamer Fair Play, have volunteered their services.

The Adelaide, formerly used at the foot of Salmon street, has been brought into use at the Stark-street ferry, running in connection with the Ferry.

If any one doubts that business is doing well in Idaho and Utah, let them take a walk along the wharves from Taylor street to the steamship landing.

FRUIT WILL CONSERVE MOISTURE. Farmer Advocates Protection Against Wind in Dry Climate.

GRANGEVILLE, Cal., Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—When the tests were made at the Agricultural College at Corvallis to determine which method of cultivation will conserve the moisture best, it was found that the soil which was not taken into account, even surface hold moisture better even than the fine dust covering.

It is this end let each county in the state be divided into districts of suitable size under carefully guarded and wise legislation by which the real estate in each district shall be authorized to be bonded and the roads to be improved, together with such other discretionary powers as may be deemed reasonable and just, supervised by competent engineers; when the work is accepted payment to be made in the same manner as is usually provided for payments for improvements of streets in our cities under careful supervision.

This plan, fully worked out and properly guarded, would place the cost of the improvements upon the adjacent lands, and would be a fair and equitable value, thereby compensating the owners. It would embrace every nook and corner of the state, and the opportunity for graft and favoritism would be minimized.

Under this plan road building would be done in the most judicious and adjusted to meet the demands for the state. Scenic highways and extended thoroughfares or boulevards would be built, and the adjacent real estate would be proportionately enhanced in value. The burden of cost would be borne by the beneficiaries.

If this plan has merit it needs no boosting arguments in support, if not the less said the better.

W. H. ODELL.

What Mr. Fording Proposed. PORTLAND, Jan. 28.—(To the Editor.)—The Oregonian, in its issue of the 27th, published a list of names of candidates for Governor of Oregon, giving to each a vote. I did not vote, and I do not intend to. I do not intend to vote for any of the candidates named. I do not intend to vote for any of the candidates named.

As one who has been fortunate enough to receive some of the benefits of attendance at one of the higher institutions of learning, I feel that it is my duty to do what I can to improve the education of the people of Oregon, permit me to commend your attitude as to the most practical method of doing so.

Your position is well taken and worthy of the deepest consideration by those in authority to require such matters. W. R. DILLIEY.

"All the Comforts of Home." This is an old and familiar phrase that suggests many genial and comfortable thoughts to one's mind. It was a happy draught, some ago and always will be one. It is hoped.

The comforts of home, however, have multiplied many, many times in recent years.

When one considers and compares the bare household necessities of fifty years ago with those of today the advancement is recognized as almost marvellous.

Any one who is at all familiar with the home equipment of a generation or two ago knows well what remarkable strides have been made. There is left a department of the home that hasn't benefited by an advanced civilization.

Are you right up to the times in all of improvement?

If not, there is no better way than to turn to the advertising pages of The Oregonian, wherein is set forth a list of interesting information of every possible description, including the best and the most modern things that go to make the home modern and comfortable.—Adv.