The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as second-class matter.
Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance:

(BY MAIL)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$8.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	4.25
Daily, Sunday included, three months	2.25
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75
Daily, without Sunday, one year	6.00
Daily, without Sunday, six months	3.25
Daily, without Sunday, three months	1.75
Daily, without Sunday, one month	.60
Weekly, one year	1.50
Sunday, one year	2.50
Sunday and weekly, one year	3.00

(BY CARRIER)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$9.00
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75

How to Remit—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Postage Rates—12 to 16 pages, 1 cent; 18 to 32 pages, 2 cents; 34 to 48 pages, 3 cents; 50 to 60 pages, 4 cents; 62 to 76 pages, 5 cents; 78 to 92 pages, 6 cents. Foreign postage, double rates.

Eastern Business Offices—Verree & Conklin, New York, Brunswick building. Chicago, Steger building.

San Francisco Office—R. J. Bidwell Co., 742 Market street.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1914.

LIBERTY AND MARTIAL LAW.

One after another state Governors have undertaken to end disturbed or disorderly conditions by the short cut of martial law before they have exhausted the powers entrusted to them under the civil law. Mr. A. S. Bennett well expressed the contrary principle when he said that, if elected Governor, he would enforce the law within the law. Often in recent years Governors have undertaken to enforce the law against others by setting aside the law which defines and limits their own powers. This has been the case in West Virginia, it was the case in Colorado under a former Governor and is so again under the present Governor and it was so in Oregon when Governor West resorted to martial law in suppressing the disorderly saloons of Copperfield.

The danger arising from increasing resort to such methods is greater than any other danger which threatens us, for it strikes at the first principles of liberty. Under martial law, every citizen's life, liberty and property are at the mercy of the Governor and his military officers. A man may be arrested by military order, may be tried without jury by a military tribunal, may have sentence imposed greater than the law provides, may be imprisoned for long terms and may be released only on condition imposed by the Governor that he does not exercise rights guaranteed to him by the civil law. All these things happened in West Virginia and they may happen in Oregon, when we have a Governor who follows up his declaration of martial law against a few saloonkeepers by ordering one of his officers to ignore the civil process of one of the courts.

The methods of this form of usurpation are exposed in a strong light by Senator Borah's findings as to martial law in West Virginia, which are included in the report of the Senate committee on the Paint Creek strike. He finds that no effort to indict offenders by grand jury and to try them by jury had been made before martial law was proclaimed and trials by court-martial were held; that the civil courts were open and in operation during the period of martial law; and that no threats of violence or use of force were made against the judges or courts. The prosecuting attorney simply assumed that practically everybody in the county had expressed an opinion on the controversy and the crimes arising therefrom and that, for that reason, prejudice was so universal in the county that a grand jury would not indict and that an impartial trial could not be procured. Kanawha County, where the disturbances prevailed, has a population of 80,000 to 87,000, but only about 20,000 were included in the martial law zone. A complaint before a magistrate in the strike zone, who was known to be prejudiced, could be taken to any other magistrate in the county for trial. A state of civil war existed in the strike zone between the mine operators and their guards on the one side and the miners on the other, and the rest of the population took sides, but no effort was made by the Sheriff to use the forces of the other three-fourths of the population, or by the Governor to use his police power in the state at large, in disarming and dispersing the combatants. The officials took the short cut of martial law as the easiest way.

The militia were not used to reinforce the civil power, as they might have been and have been in similar emergencies. The Sheriff admitted that, martial law prevailing, a civil officer could have found evidence as easily as a military officer. The military could have disarmed both parties to the strife, protected courts and witnesses, restored peace and cleared the way for unobstructed operation of the civil law. But the whole machinery of the civil law was swept aside, so far as regards offenses growing out of the strike, and military law was substituted. Courts-martial tried men for offenses committed outside of the martial law zone and at times when martial law was not in force. Civil officers arrested men and handed them over to the military officers. Penalties were imposed by courts-martial in excess of those provided by civil law; a man might have been imprisoned for life for perjury.

The West Virginia authorities plead necessity as the excuse for this military despotism, for necessity has ever been the excuse for tyranny. Necessity was not present in this case. Resort to the processes of civil law would have been slower and more tedious, but it should have been had. Not until it had failed after fair trial should resort have been had to the militia, and then armed forces should have been used only as an aid to the civil power. Only when that expedient had failed would martial law have been excusable. It was still less excusable in Oregon, where it was applied in a diminutive community before sincere effort had been made to stir the county authorities to action.

The principle at stake is more important than the questions at issue between the operators and miners or between Governor West and the Copperfield saloonkeepers. It is that the basic rights of every man and woman shall be inviolate, and that the official chosen to administer the law shall himself scrupulously regard the law. That principle requires that he shall himself respect those rights and compel others to do likewise.

Immigration officials sometimes make themselves ridiculous to the world. That was the case when Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, the English author of a novel that has had a sale of a half million copies, was quizzed for two hours and was reluctantly cleared of a charge of senile dementia. Mrs. Steel is 67 years old, in full possession of her faculties and only stopped off in the United States for forty-eight hours on her way to Jamaica. She says she will home by way of Canada rather than set foot in this country. The Brooklyn Eagle says:

> She had to tell an "immigration inspector" that she had a hundred pounds in her pocket-book. She did tell him that she could scrub floors and cook a dinner as well as anybody. He asked her how she made a living, and she replied that she would get thirty pounds for writing up the quizzing process.

The old lady will surely put some red pepper into the article she writes.

I. W. W.'S FEELINGS HURT.

There are risks in holding up the I. W. W. to ridicule and contempt. John Carey, a New York merchant, displayed a cartoon in which the central figure says:

> I Want What
> I Want When
> I Won't Work.

A crowd of tramps is depicted entering a stylish Broadway restaurant and bearing a sign: "Give us work and sleep at the same time." On a table stands a figure supposed to represent Tannenbaum, general of the New York army of the unemployed, who says:

> WE started out for
> Bread—Now we want
> Chocolate eclairs and
> Charlotte russes.
> Let slaves work.

Two of the tramps swagger up a broad staircase, ordering the manager to "Lead us to de best room in de joint—one wid a perfumed bath," while two others bid the assistant managsr to "Call us at noon and have de limousine waiting." The man who was arrested with $750 in his pockets when the mob invaded a church is depicted as the "$750 Beauty," with greenbacks sticking out of every pocket.

A roughly dressed, bearded man told Mr. Carey if he did not take the picture out of the window pretty quick "something is going to happen to you that you don't like."

Mr. Carey ordered him out, and that night a stone was thrown through the window.

That is a warning to beware of wounding the tender sensibilities of the I. W. W. For obvious reasons they cannot sue for defamation of character, but any suggestion that they have a repugnance for work is gross libel on the principle that "the greater the truth, the greater the libel," and may be resented with a stone through one's window. They are one branch of our self-elected aristocracy, which is made up of the idle rich and the idle poor, and must be treated with the consideration due their rank.

THIEVES OR RASCALS, ALL.

The Portland citizens who are fighting the meter extravagance are a pretty bad bunch of crooks, in the judgment of Commissioner Daly. The leaders in the referendum, it seems, are composed largely of men whom he has forestalled in efforts to impair the Bull Run reserve or commit the water department to some extravagance for their personal benefit. Either that or they are distantly related by ties of blood or employment to someone who has some pernicious scheme afoot to rob the public. Even some of the signers of petitions are lawbreakers who don't want meters because with meters they can't break the law.

There is an East Side woman, it is learned from an interview with the Commissioner, who has been irrigating her garden by letting the water run all night. Another woman on Portland Heights waters several lots from one tap. Another preserves the family food by putting it in running Bull Run water. One man has no ice bill because he has a coil of water pipes in the refrigerator through which the water runs all the time. All are opposed to meters.

It is too bad that a community, generally honest and moral in other particulars, should descend to such depths of villainy in respect to protection and use of water. But it is not clear just how the would-be raiders of the Bull Run reserve and other big schemers are to get much of a revenge on Mr. Daly by preventing the installation of water meters.

Defeat of the plan does not relieve him of his job. It does not deprive him of any perquisites that we know of. In fact, there is a general impression that it would give his department a record for economy to which he some day can point with pride, for the people will soon forget that they forced it on him. Inflicting persecution that does not persecute is mighty poor satisfaction to a man seeking vengeance.

As for the small water grafters, now that Mr. Daly has discovered them, their fate is in his hands. There is a city ordinance which authorizes their arrest and the imposition of a maximum fine of $100 on each of them for every day the water is permitted to run to waste. There is no need to spend $500,000 to stop water thieving definitely known and located by the water department.

STATE AID FOR IRRIGATION.

In reply to a request from The Oregon Hub, a Redmond newspaper, Dr. C. J. Smith has set forth his views on the irrigation problem. He proposes a plan for state aid in reclamation of arid lands and follows it with the unoriginal remark that he expects it to be criticised. Nevertheless it is "thrown open for criticism," but with dark hints as to what would happen to Eastern Oregon "if we all stood back and told ourselves how bad conditions were and hit every head which bobbed up with an idea offered to afford relief." Fully aware that all critics are thus prejudiced as mere head hunters, The Oregonian nevertheless ventures to offer a few modest opinions concerning Dr. Smith's irreproachable plan.

In brief, he relates that it is customary to allow a reclamation company 100 per cent for promotion and construction over and above the actual estimated cost of reclamation. He would save this sum and avoid bad engineering and slipshod methods by having the state do the work under the supervision of the State Engineer, Desert Land Board or Water Board. The money would be provided by bonding the project itself and the income from the sale of land and water rights would be used to pay the interest and principal of the bonds. It is admitted that the state might have to guarantee the bonds to insure their sale. The kernel of the plan is that state aid is promised without cost to the taxpayers.

It may be said that Dr. Smith has hit upon an excellent plan if it would work as he seems to think. One cause for the addition of 100 per cent for promotion and construction over the estimated cost of the work is the length of time that must elapse before returns are had from a reclamation enterprise. Several years, sometimes eight or ten, must elapse, before the water can be turned on the land. To obtain an income from the project before that time the water rights must be sold to speculators, a practice that has been a serious handicap to the success of projects heretofore undertaken by promoters. On the other hand the right of entry given to actual settlers before the water was on the land has caused unmeasured distress on some of the Government projects. Unforeseen obstacles almost invariably delay the completion of irrigation works and the settler without water must starve and default in his payments. In fact the only practicable plan is to withhold sales or entry until the water is actually available.

The state aid plan offered by Dr. Smith means that the state would have to raise money on a project a number of years before there would be any returns on the investment. Buyers of bonds are not satisfied with a mere guarantee that they will ultimately receive interest and principal. They want bonds on which the interest is paid regularly and promptly.

It follows that to make irrigation bonds saleable the state must guarantee principal and interest and it also is certain the guarantee with regard to interest would be enforced against the state for several years on each issue of bonds. The state would have to advance the interest.

An annual interest charge means an increased tax burden. The promise of its return and the insurance of future benefits by its expenditure classify it as something else than extravagance but undoubtedly before the people will be in the humor to accept new responsibilities they will require that there be a counter saving in the conduct of government. The Oregonian clings to the opinion that the candidate who can definitely show where he will save a dollar is more likely to be elected than the one who shows solely where he will spend a dollar.

TRUE SOURCE OF PROSPERITY.

Talk as we may about the human efforts which promote or delay prosperity, the most powerful agencies to those ends are natural and above human control. If the sun shines, the rain falls and the wind blows in season, we have all the primary essentials of prosperity, and if the individual man sows the seed, cultivates the ground and reaps the harvest in season, he will be prosperous without regard to what man in his collective capacity does in the way of passing tariff laws, currency laws, anti-trust laws and railroad laws. These latter may somewhat lubricate the wheels which pass prosperity around, but they cannot greatly aid or greatly hinder its coming.

While our eyes have been turned eastward to see what Congress is doing, what Wall street is doing, what the Interstate Commerce Commission is doing to bring us prosperity, the weather and the farmers at our doors, combined, have taken the most effective means to that end without regard to outside help. Bountiful rain and snow followed by bright Spring sunshine have put the land in condition to yield abundantly, and the farmers of the Pacific Northwest have increased their wheat acreage to take full advantage of nature's bounty. Growth of the wheat crop of Oregon, Washington and Idaho from 56,000,000 bushels in 1913 to 70,000,000 bushels in 1914 is the fair prospect held out to us. This is typical of the prospect as to other crops—grain, forage, fruit and hops—and from this bounty we may expect abundance of cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry and dairy products.

Prosperity after all is based on products of the soil. When they abound, the farmer prospers, and from him prosperity flows in a golden stream to men of all useful callings. The city man who sits at home waiting for prosperity to come to him would better go into the country and dig it out of the ground. Let him wait no longer for business to "pick up," but hie to the farm and make more business at the starting point of all business. If he does not fatten his bank account in the first year or two, he will get rich returns in better health, and in future years, if he farms wisely and well, his material wealth will be abundant.

MR. BRYAN RIDES BEHIND.

The relation of Secretary of State Bryan to President Wilson is discussed with fine irony by Colonel George Harvey in the North American Review. Beginning with the quotation "When two men ride an ass, one must ride behind," Colonel Harvey describes Mr. Bryan as having taken "his place in the second saddle upon the flanks of the ass of Democracy." He relates the negotiations through Colonel Edward M. House which ended in Mr. Bryan's elevation to that seat. Among the terms mentioned are that the President reserved to himself the making of all appointments and the making and shaping of foreign policies, but conceded to Mr. Bryan "the privilege of continuing his lucrative lectures" and relieved him of the traditional requirement to serve wine to his guests.

The President's eulogium of Mr. Bryan in a letter to a Baltimore friend is ascribed to Mr. Wilson's realization that the Secretary "had become unwontedly restive under criticism which he felt to be undeserved" and to exposure of an alleged Wall-street conspiracy to discredit him in the eyes of the President. Referring to this letter, Colonel Harvey says:

> Somehow we have never been able to circumscribe Mr. Bryan as a mere Secretary of State. We long since came to regard him as a public institution such as the English possess in Westminster Abbey and the French in the Arc de Triomphe. Official information, therefore, to the effect that he can sit without restiveness for hours at a time before a desk and not only detect red tape, but unite red tape and "clear away many a difficulty" assumes the magnitude of a surprising revelation.
>
> "We would not be understood as questioning the potency of Mr. Bryan as Secretary of State," continues Colonel Harvey. He then mentions among the Secretary's achievements "valuable assistance in proposing ministers to South American republics; serving notice upon Great Britain that home rule must be granted to Ireland; counseling the recognition of Yuan Shi Kai as a 'just government resting upon the consent of the governed'; dispatching of election inspectors to Santo Domingo." He also selected John Lind for the Mexican mission; "induced the Commoner to loan Associate Editor Metcalfe to Panama," and more in the same strain.

The peace treaty with Salvador is called "so utterly absurd upon its face that it evoked only derision," but he is credited with having thus "paved the way for the solution of the gravest problem of the age, . . . a very great achievement," upon which Colonel Harvey remarks: "We are surprised that the President should have overlooked it."

Mr. Bryan's course in refusing to serve wine is pronounced "wholly commendable," but the Colonel has doubts about the compromise on grapejuice, saying: "Personally, we should have preferred cider as a more healthful, more delectable and more truly National beverage." But he assumes that Mr. Bryan would not "object to an Ambassador fetching and sipping his own wine."

Colonel Harvey has evidently been at great pains to get the facts about Mr. Bryan's journeyings and their purpose, for he says that "of the 310 days succeeding his installation he was absent from Washington 72 and journeyed 31,800 miles. He finds the "net outcome is that out of 310 days Mr. Bryan has appropriated to his own use but thirty-five, or less than one day a week," and says this "disposes of the accusation that he has disregarded his obligations as a public servant." As to the question of propriety Colonel Harvey quotes Mr. Bryan's two explanations, one that he gives lectures "not for a lucrative end" and the other that he needs the money, remarking that they "are not conterminous," and sums them up by saying: "In a word, he would divide the expense."

The programme of one Chautauqua is quoted in which Mr. Bryan is sandwiched between the Neapolitan Troubadors and Elliot A. Boyl. From an account of the lecture it is quoted that he cooled his hand on a cake of ice and rubbed it on his head. The report closed:

> At the end of an hour and a half Bryan and the ice disappeared and the orchestra resumes with "Madame Sherry."

The Colonel sees little occasion for criticism except as a matter of taste. He is "indisposed to combat Mr. Bryan's determination to visit the chancelleries of Europe for the purpose of promulgating his views upon universal amity," remarking: "Though wholly sophisticated and inclined to be skeptical, it by no means follows that they might not succumb to his homiletical words and winning ways." He sums up how much of Mr. Bryan's several platforms has been or is in a fair way to be realized, and closes by suggesting the following introduction "if the yodelers have quite finished":

> William Jennings Bryan; last in war, first in peace, safe in the hearts of his countrymen.

If Mr. Bryan's real sentiments could be learned, they would probably be that he would rather be spared Colonel Harvey's compliments.

In giving a square deal to the railroads the people would be giving a square deal to themselves. Inefficient railroads are a hindrance to the business of the whole country; efficient railroads are a help. The offenses of those railroads which have permitted promoters and speculators to juggle with them should not be condoned, but the great majority which have been honestly managed and have cheerfully endeavored to comply with the law should not be punished for the sins of these few. By punishing them, the people punish themselves. They should, without further delay, be permitted to increase their earnings to the point where they can operate with the highest efficiency and can secure capital for those improvements which demand investment of nearly $1,000,000,000 within the next year.

The New York Times closes a rather lugubrious article on the experiment with Government railroads to be made in Alaska by offering a good suggestion. This is that rates on the road should fall as profits rise, as is provided in contracts with some public utilities. If the roads be leased to an operating company, expenses can be held in check and rates can be reduced as profits rise with growing traffic. If the Government should operate the roads, profits might fail to rise, hence rates might fail to fall. We don't wish to repeat Canada's experience with the Government-operated Intercolonial Railroad, which has always paid "Irish dividends."

Thomas C. Platt escaped much grief by dying ere the United States Express Company voted to dissolve. When he was in the heyday of his power, he guarded it carefully against hostile postal legislation, and his sorrow over its present plight could not have been assuaged.

Bandit Villa, who by telephone invites himself to eat supper with the Federal commander of Torreon, does not set a date. It will be recalled he failed to keep a promise to take dinner last Christmas in Mexico City.

California's unemployed are headed this way. Have they heard of the demand for farm laborers in the valley or of the emptiness of the Gypsy Smith auditorium?

Seventy million bushels of wheat is a great crop for the Pacific Northwest and Portland is the great port from which to ship the bulk of it.

Many illustrated advertisements of the corset dealers are an aggravation to the woman whose latitude equals her longitude.

Every now and then faith in justice is restored on learning that the man who beats a horse is punished.

Why not have the Third Oregon go into camp at the Exposition next year on its return from Mexico?

Money must whirl into the Multnomah treasury this week to settle the $6,000,000 taxes still due.

Some people are doing their worst to put the British Government in a hole in Ulster.

Jackson County is up to date in using an automobile to overtake a horsethief.

The millennium surely is coming, since Paris has begun a moral reform.

The English idea seems to be that a regiment in time saves nine.

There will be no getting away from a Roundup at Culdesac.

Medford is becoming quite a city with its trolley car in service.

Bryan is unable to retain a tail hold on the llama.

John Lind has been "sawing wood" a long time.

BRITISH PURSE MUST BE SAVED

Free Toll Opponents "Seeing English" Declares Correspondent.

TACOMA, March 19.—(To the Editor.)—I noticed in The Oregonian yesterday some petulant words from a correspondent. He blames Americans for standing for the long-established policy of free interstate commerce. Shipping has passed free and untaxed between our home ports; but this man of "economic understanding," for so he describes himself, declares that freedom of exchange between Pacific and Atlantic states is "reckless extravagance." He says taxes are levied for the "glory of tax eaters," and yet he is eager to tax Oregon products carried through the Panama Canal. In other words, he insists on more taxation in order that there may be less taxation, in order that there may be less "glory" for tax eaters. It is because of their obtuseness in this matter that he censures Americans. He finds no fault with the many millions of dollars conected with construction and maintenance of the canal, provided our domestic commerce is damaged by the cheaply operated and subsidized ships of England.

To Americans, such a mental attitude seems irrational. But your correspondent believes that we are suffering with brain storm, because we expect to derive National benefit from the canal. He says Senators who take the American position are crazy. Now, it is a common phenomenon to see an irrational person manifest, in word and action, the belief that all the rest of the world has gone awry, but your contributor is not that kind of a chap. He believes that Americans are "nutty," but that English are guided by reason. His is the view point of English boards of trade and shipowners.

Anything that affects British pockets unfavorably is unjust, almost sacrilegious. Yes, American honor will be forever sullied if covetous English pockets are not swollen at American expense. Hence, an American who believes that his country should profit in a pecuniary way from the canal is unworthy and dishonorable. He is a disturber of the "sweet atmosphere of Anglo-Saxon peace." He is, as was Samuel Adams of old, a "shiftless agitator and dangerous demagogue."

Such are Senators O'Gorman and Chamberlain, who are endeavoring to safeguard and conserve the legitimate and natural interests of our country. These men and those co-operating with them are sustaining the Panama legislation enacted by Congress in 1912. Their position is supported by authority of Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Taft. Of the same mind was Mr. Wilson once upon a time. That was in 1912, when he made his molasses speech to the Jersey farmers. But in those days Mr. Wilson was an ungodly man. Now, according to London papers, he is one of the elect—he sees English.

JAMES HOYE.

SEVERE THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE

Judge Murphy Calls on Candidates to Explain High Cost of Government.

PORTLAND, March 21.—(To the Editor.)—I've been reading a howl from a fellow in Wisconsin. He calls that state an "experiment station." The fellow aforesaid complains of a tendency toward the confiscation of property by taxation, and alleges that the cost of government in Wisconsin advanced 50 per cent within a period of 10 years ending 1900; the 1913 Legislature appropriated over $36,000,000 for the current two years; collections on income tax for 1914 will be over $4,000,000 and taxes on railroads $4,000,000 more, while the entire cost of state government in Wisconsin in 1900 did not exceed $4,000,000. This brother proposes to cure the ills of unjust taxation by using "the hair of a dog," and keep people from leaving the state, which they are doing with amazing rapidity.

Here's a tip from my overmuch admiring friend, Doc. Smith. He might call into service the "tail of a rat" and give the women a rest on "enforcement of laws." Any woman whose husband ever went to the Legislature knows full well that if he thought the statutes he lived for and fought for and was ready to die for, were introduced to be enforced, he would die of unrequited love on the part of his compatriots whom he swopped laws with.

It's no use asking Spinoza U'Ren to do any hard work, for if he gets off the subject of taxation he doesn't know a political peanut from a piece of cheese. Any man who allows his "slogan box" to get aflame over taxing the property of a dead man, and overlooks those big, husky, fat plutocrats, alive, with good digestions, and fail to impose a tax on their appetites and stomachs to give us poor dyspeptics of the crackers and tea and pursuit of pills a chance to live, is no friend of the tallow-faced brigade.

It's a pretty state of affairs that one has to go to Wisconsin to get data on the comparative increase of the expenses in running local government, when we have such handsome-looking, public-spirited men, with brains and industry and love of country and suffering humanity, like Dr. C. J. Smith, to inform us. Our Oregon system operates queerly in tax reform; our bonded indebtedness increases; assessments are growing higher; men supposed to be comfortably situated are borrowing money to pay their taxes. Yet, after all, there is some satisfaction in knowing rum can't be sold to bucolic rummies and subpenas can't be served without the consent of our rulers, and women are happy over the prospect of eugenic babies, and Doc Smith is going to enforce the laws. But somehow or other there are those who would like to hear from Doc on the comparative increase of government expenses for 10 years past and the reason thereof. We don't like to believe the comedian who jokes on racing at the rate of 90 miles an hour on an Oregon system track with a loose nut. Tighten the nut and get busy, Doc. Tell us something that is something.

J. HENNESSY MURPHY.

Diplomats Talk Too Much.

EUGENE, Or., March 21.—(To the Editor.)—It seems that the Wilson-Bryan appointees on diplomatic positions are not aware of the fundamental principle of diplomacy as expressed by Talleyrand.

Talleyrand said in reference to the requirements of a diplomat in his official capacity: "The language (or tongue, which is the same in French) has been given to man to hide (cover up) his ideas."

First Ambassador Page and now Minister Voprika have been talking too much. Have these diplomats been hypnotized by Secretary Bryan, whose greatest asset, since many years, is talking?

Talk is cheap (except in the Chautauqua circuit) but it becomes a heavy burden on the dignity of a great nation, if officials talk before they think.

E. SCHWARZSCHILD.

Right and Left Eyed.

PORTLAND, March 22.—(To the Editor.)—Is there such a thing as every person being right or left eyed? If so, how can we tell? A SUBSCRIBER.

Dr. George M. Gould, of Philadelphia, maintains that one eye is usually dominant. As an experiment point the forefinger at some object on the wall, taking aim with both eyes open. Then close each eye alternately. With most persons it is true that closing of one eye will seem to cause the finger to point to right or left of the object, while when the other eye is closed the finger covers the object. The dominant eye is the one that shows the aim to be true. If it is the left eye, one is "left-eyed"; if the right eye, one is "right-eyed."

SEVERE COST OF PATERNALISM

Mr. Rus Recalls French Attempt to Relieve the Unemployed.

PORTLAND, March 22.—(To the Editor)—In a previous letter I considered Mr. U'Ren's plan of relief for the unemployed relative to the acute condition of distress, hoping that he would point out, what he considers, the manageable causes of our unemployed problem; also the connection between them and his plan or how the latter will tend to diminish or eradicate the evil. His latest contribution to The Oregonian is so vague and barren, that notwithstanding the great demand men like myself have already made upon his patience, I desire to attack his plan fundamentally and as a remedy, either for the chronic seasonal or the perennial condition of distress of the unemployed. Parenthetically, let me say, that perhaps no citizen of this state taxes the patience of the electorate of Oregon more than does Mr. U'Ren, with his many innovations, and it ill becomes him to complain on that score.

I believe there is at present little danger of people starving in Oregon, provided they make their condition known, but there is great danger that in trying to find artificial means for the support of the unemployed, the means which are adopted to help one thousand men and women, will be an injury to thousands of others.

Repugnant as the solicitations for help must be on the part of some of the needy, yet on the part of the givers, voluntary actions will tend to strengthen a moral habit, better than compulsory exactions in the form of taxes doled out by the state officials in payment of relief work, which under the circumstances are acts of charity just the same, no matter by what name they may be called. For let it be clearly understood that, no one having been born with the state's consent, it does not owe a living to anyone. This, of course, does not imply that, within certain limits, the state should not do something to relieve extreme cases of distress.

No one is responsible for having been born, and it may be granted that everyone has a right to live, but not the right to bring creatures into this world to be supported by others. If the claim made upon society, to provide work at "reasonable wages" to all who demand it, was limited to the existing members of society only, it would, perhaps, have few objections. But the proposition is altogether different, when those who have produced, saved and accumulated are asked to furnish the necessities of life, or work to obtain them, not only for those now existing, but also for those whom these people may see fit to call into existence.

An acute thinker, who was also a good friend of the common people, truly said: "To give profusely to the people under the name of charity or employment, without placing them under restrictions is to lavish the means of benefiting mankind without obtaining the object."

The result of past experiences of work performed under similar plans as that proposed by Mr. U'Ren, has been unsatisfactory. The work done was expensive and inefficient. Officialdom does not work as expected, and the achieved results of a legislative measure usually differ greatly from the expected results. This Mr. U'Ren will not dispute. The state may begin with the payment of $2 per day and a total expenditure for the first year of $500,000; but what will it be four or five years from the beginning?

Another thing which, most likely, has been overlooked by advocates of the proposed remedy is that, in the past, the principal beneficiaries of such work are the members of the shiftless or undeserving class, to the partial or total exclusion of the deserving and competent members of the unemployed. For some reasons these classes do not easily mix.

The proposed plan is further open to objection because it would compel the taxpayers of this state to supplement the wages of hundreds of more or less skilled workers who are engaged in seasonal occupations and do not earn enough during the working part of the year to maintain themselves and their families during the whole year. This burden, which in all equity ought to be borne by certain industries, would then be shifted to the taxpayers. As I have remarked before, it is the nature of this precious remedy of Mr. U'Ren to aggravate the disease it is meant to allay. Let me give one striking example. What were the conditions in Paris, where the administration in the course of 16 years had expended 1,865,000,000 francs, or $354,350,000, on works undertaken mainly for the purpose of employing the people? At the end of that period there were, outside of the fortifications, huddled into hovels of wood or tarred pasteboard, or bivouacking on the ground, over 300,000 workmen, exclusive of the families, which many of them had. An eye-witness described the scene as a picture of barbarism by the side of civilization.

INNE RUS.

CITY MAN'S PLIGHT IN COUNTRY

Plenty Fresh Food All About But Only Canned Truck to Eat.

PORTLAND, March 21.—(To the Editor.)—Wednesday last was spent in an Oregon village located in a fine agricultural and dairying region, the farms coming up to the store, hall and other buildings in the town.

The depot platform had on it an assembly of empty milk cans, returned to the owners to be refilled for the city market. During the day was witnessed also the dressing by two farmers, a fine fat hog, to go by next train to the city. They were in a hurry to get it ready.

At noon the tavern was visited for dinner. The meal consisted, with the exception of eggs and potatoes, wholly of "canned truck," the landlady, by way of apology, stating that not an ounce of bacon, ham or other kind of meat could be had in the place. I remembered seeing her in the village store wanting to buy meat an hour before.

For cream in coffee was served a ropy, suspicious looking matter bought at the store in tin cans; and this in a community where any amount of delicious cream is produced. A glass of milk at dinner was wanted, to which the reply came, "We have no milk, our milk is all sent to the city!"

Commercial men visiting the smaller rural towns in Oregon will confirm the fact that the town described is not an exception; that the practice by the ranchers of selling to the city for a little ready cash, the best things produced on the farm, such as wholesome meat, poultry, cream, and fresh milk, and buying back at redoubled cost "canner's" and "packer's" things, is all too common; and poor living it is, too.

The average farmer is nobody's fool, far from it, but he does not seem to see that in the practice now in vogue he cheats not only his own stomach, but his pocket-book as well. There are, however, among Oregon farmers, numerous exceptions to this way of doing things. C. E. CLINE.

Origin of Latin Quarter.

PORTLAND, March 22.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly give the definition of "Latin Quarter." What kind of a locality is it? H. W. G.

Latin Quarter is a name applied to a section of Paris which in the thirteenth century became the site of the schools comprising the National university. Up to the time of Henry IV students were taught a mixture of French and Latin, and because "Latin" was the language of the university the region became known as the Latin Quarter. The quarter is now frequented by all tongues except Latin.

Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of March 23, 1889.

Tacoma, March 22.—When the election among the Indians took place on Tuesday on the question of opening the Puyallup Reservation to the Puyallup Valley Railroad, Agent Eells called up 12 Indians and charged them with receiving bribes from George J. Dougherty, agent of the Puyallup Valley Railroad. One and all confessed. Frank O. Meeker, representing the railroad company, asked for an investigation, which was held today.

Salem, Or., March 22.—Justice Frink placed O. P. Beardsley under bonds of $2500 for killing Perryman. Threats of lynching are heard, but no danger is feared.

Wichita, March 22.—Hundreds of Oklahoma boomers left the northern part of the territory for their homes, being conducted by soldiers. Many hundreds are hiding in Oklahoma and others are arriving.

Samuel Elmore, the well-known canneryman, who has been East for two months, is in the city.

Under the auspices of the Oregon Alpine Club, Portland is to have two concerts by the Ovide Musin Concert Company at the New Park.

A handsome Black Republican cherry tree, which has been growing for nine years past on Mr. H. L. Pittock's block between Washington and Alder on West Park and Eighth streets, was dug up and carried away by some enterprising fellow as the tree was just blooming.

Thursday evening Mrs. C. W. Nottingham left her home on Portland Heights in a buggy with her sister-in-law to attend Grace Church. On service being over, they found the buggy was gone. Policeman Joe Day recovered the horse and buggy in the back part of town.

The La Camas lumber mills will start up full time Monday.

The cornerstone of St. Patrick's Church, which was laid by Archbishop Gross last Sunday, was the gift of Edward Campion.

On motion of Mr. Ladd, the school directors appointed Chairman Thompson and Mr. Therkelsen a committee to engage an architect and adopt plans for an addition to the Failing School.

The affairs of the Oregonian Railway Company are shortly to be wound up.

Phalanx Lodge No. 14, K. of P., celebrated its sixth anniversary last night in Ross Hall. S. Bloomer, C. C., called the assembly to order, and addresses were made by Dr. Royal, Mr. Bloomfield, of Vancouver, Mr. Brewster, of Albina, Mr. Glover, of Vancouver Lodge, D. D. Neer, Judge Llewellyn and A. B. Bloomer. Dr. J. H. Heppburn read a letter of regret from Governor Semple, whose health was drunk, also that of the new Governor, Miles C. Moore.

G. W. Shaver will leave soon for California.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of March 23, 1864.

Paris, March 5.—A Hamburg dispatch announces that three brigades of Austrian troops had received orders from General Wrangel to enter Jutland and invest Frederica.

Washington, March 20.—Prisoners from Richmond assert that the rebels have already secretly executed a number of officers attached to colored regiments. It is said that several have mysteriously disappeared from Libby Prison.

Washington, March 21.—General Grant will be here in the morning. On Thursday he reviews the entire Army of the Potomac.

Washington, March 21.—A joint resolution has been introduced in Congress, submitting to the Legislatures of the states an amendment to the Constitution declaring slavery forever prohibited in the United States.

The O. S. N. Company are running some fine boats between this city and the head of navigation on the Columbia, and a trip to Lapwai is quite a different undertaking to what it was a few years ago, when river facilities were confined to the Indian canoe and when the overland conveyance was limited to the cayuse.

The office of the State Telegraph is in the office of the Pioneer Hotel and the eye of a verdant merchant from the interior being attracted to the telegraph instrument, he inquired of Mr. Arrigoni the price of "those sewing machines."

The present quarters of the Oregon Iron Works are too small and they are putting up a new building just west of the Academy.

Yankee Sanders announced yesterday that Mrs. Hayne, Miss Gass, Mr. Waldron and their company would play at the Oak Grove Theater, Vancouver, this evening.

A. C. Swift, of Idaho City, has been appointed commissioner of deeds for Oregon by Governor Gibbs.

Candidate for City Marshal—William Grooms.

Notice—By the solicitation of many friends I announce myself as a candidate for City Marshal. J. R. Witherell.

No Consideration Shown.

Baltimore American.

Doctor—I hear the operation lately performed by Dr. Cutem was a botch.

Friend—Why, I understood the patient was completely cured by it.

Doctor (loftily)—I am not speaking of its effects on the patient, but of the way the operation was performed.

Modern Merchandising

Forty years ago our wants were comparatively few and the means of gratifying them correspondingly scarce.

Hats were hats, shoes were shoes, and clothes were clothes in those days.

Requirements today are much more complex, our needs are multiplied.

So that it is not enough to make up our minds to buy a new hat or a new pair of shoes or a new suit of clothes.

Style, quality, service and many other essentials occupy our minds now, when we feel the need of purchasing anything.

Newspaper advertising has opened our eyes to the need and to the distinct advantages of being informed.

And retailers in their constant striving to please and to create new business are daily telling of the merits of their wares in the columns of dependable newspapers like The Oregonian.

Keep up with the times.

Don't neglect your newspaper.—Adv.