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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 11, 1915.

\$150,000 FOR HONESTY?

Portland received its first charter from the territorial Legislature in 1851. It has therefore been a city for mearly sixty-five years and during more ministrations and poor administrations it only if the Central and South Amer-came and went. At times well-ground-ican countries will help us. ed suspicions were directed against the official honesty of members of the But during numerous two-Council. year periods the integrity of no high fficial in the city administration was

questioned. These particulars of history are rehas become the fashion for some Portcommission government all and submit that situation triumphantly as though it completely disposed of any and all criticisms of another character directed against the present Portland administration.

Honesty in government is a valuable desideratum. But is it necessary to one of those who believe that mankind as a whole is honest. If this be admitted, honesty ought to be the cheapest among the desirable characteristics sought in a city administra-We have had honesty in the Portland administration for two years, but have we added anything else that payers annually much more than the preceding administration. Four hundred and fifty thousand dollars is we really needed? It has cost the taxto pay if for honesty alone.

But waiving the question of its high price, this honesty cannot be accurately credited exclusively or even in large part to the "system." Other cities have a commission form of government and do not obtain honesty. Nashville, Tenn., is now in the hands of a receiver-an almost unprecedented experience for a municipality. various malfeasances, such as favoring relatives with contracts, oppressing political opponents, colluding with Germany. oan sharks and using interest from public money for private purposes Portland has an honest city govern-ment because it picked out its Commissioners for their integrity. Looking back to the first election under the commission charter, we are inclined to suspect that in seeking honest Com-missioners we forgot everything else.

We do not deplore the quest for honesty. We do not suggest a return to the councilmanic form of government. But we are more than ever convinced that the system does not count half so much as the character and capacity of the officials elected. What Portland needed two years ago was a commisston composed of men of both honesty and business capacity. There was a demand for both square dealing and nomy in municipal affairs. There were no other issues. To obtain desirable factors four well-paid positions had been newly created These positions have been filled without the elimination of any department head that previously existed, so far as official has set up an establishment of his own, with a secretary and in some instances a large office force. Each has seemingly assumed that his special some pet idea or hobby about running are willing to spend it. which the people, when they elected him, did not know he entertained. Common digging after the oradministration, which when accumu-

forward with the statement that as feed and with butter in good demand; thority, he could save Portland \$1000 a and hogs and with Europe taking ou day. It is not to be doubted. Mr. on is a good business man and he would have as his first point of attack the more than \$1000 a day it now all the elements of prosperity. The given the lie in the House of Commons. costs to run the city as compared with the period directly preceding commission government. The Oregonian is confident a manager would be a good thing for Portland, provided he an honest and capable manager. The main difficulty is to fill the capacity part of the bill. Municipal manage ment is not yet a profession in Amer-The timber to draw from conlargely of men of native business ability. But so it is in ordinary commission government. Honest commisas heretofore remarked, are not hard to find. Trained, or experienced, or efficient commissioners are The advantage of the managerial plan over the commission plan is that it gives freedom of selection. Commisoners under the existing charter must be chosen from those who offer their services. A large salary is not ordinarily would. By a natural process always sufficient to bring out the best Each must make his application public; he must publicly advertise his did not find and to learn from the merqualifications and spend his own money to do it; he must run the chance of a public defeat, which to many men is humiliating; worse still, he may ave publicly to compete for place with demagogues, misfits and political bankditions which keep many qualified men

In selecting a city manager the city has the whole country to choose from. If the proper man does not offer his opted at all, with eyes open to the turer, thus helping to pass prosperity essentials that make good government. around. Factories are busy filling war

The people must be vigilant in selecting the appointing body, not once, but in each succeeding election. That body must be composed of men who are honest, responsive to public opinion and ready to eschew politics and co-operate with the manager to root out extravagance and willing to let the manager manage. Conceding that city managers are to be had, the system ought then to work well. But it will not run itself. It must be backed by undiminishing public interest,

NOT YET.

The Democratic platform of 1912 ontains this clear notice to the world that a Democratic Administration will safeguard the rights of American citizens everywhere:

The constitutional rights of American citi-The constitutional rights of American citizens should protect them on our borders and go with them throughout the world, and every American citizen residing or having property in any foreign country is entitled to and must be given the full protection of the United States Government, both for himself and his property.

President Wilson on May 13, 1915.

relterated the solemn responsibility of the American Government to its citizens in the following memorable declaration:

expect the Government of the United States to emit any word or any act nacessary to the performance of its sacred duly of main-taining the rights of the United States and its citizens and of safeguarding their free exercise and enjoyment.

Yet for two and one-half years we than sixty years of its life struggled have hesitated and faltered on the along under the councilmanic form of brink of our duty to Mexico; and even government. In that period good ad- now we profess ourselves willing to do

AMERICA'S WAY.

The Oregonian has from a highly respected citizen, whose name is withheld at his request, a letter comparing unfavorably the attitude of the Ameremphasize the fact that the ican press with the Swiss press during worth of commission government can- the present war. The newspapers in not be demonstrated in two years. It the little European republic are required by law to refrain from abusing land newspapers to point to the ab- or criticising contemptuously a foreign nation, or its ruler, or government, and sence of scandal, imputation or suspi-cion that has attended less than two they print the news impartially from all sources. Our correspondent sug-gests that American newspapers would serve the interests of a real neutrality if they emulated the Swiss press.

We think our friend has struck the keynote of Switzerland's coercion of its newspapers when he describes the "conflict raging all around." It is vital pay large sums for it? The Oregonian to Switzerland that it preserve its neutrality-its traditional policy, long respected by the nations of Europe, and not so far violated during the present war. It might well be thought that if the United States were bordered everywhere by powerful warring nations, and if it feared involvement above everything else, it would preserve a discreet impartiality, though it would probably arm itself to the teeth, as Switzerland does.

Many American newspapers frankly unneutral. A large part of them are continuously and candidly critical of Germany on the merits of the European conflict and without spe cial reference to Germany's differences with America. Many of them have taken sides against Germany in the 1ssues growing out of the Lusitania tragedy. Some of them are impartial or concommittal, and a few unhyphenat-Nashville has the commission form of ed journals are for Germany. None government. Its officials are accused of the so-called German-American papers are either neutral or noncommit-They are beiligerently for tal.

For example, we have before us a Portland German-American paper, which sharply attacks President Wilson as being guilty of a "well-planned unfriendliness" toward Germany, and it says also that the "American Government cares less for the lives of Americans (on the Lusitania) than it does for bringing on a conflict with But what we sought we got—honesty—
Germany." These are rather serious charges. We wonder what would have happened in Germany if similar statements had been made there by any newspaper about the Emperor and the German government.

We suppose that our Mt. Angel friend thinks all American newspapers representing all shades of opinion on the war ought to be suppressed. we rather doubt the wisdom or efficacy of his plan. We are willing to let all sides have a say. It is America's way.

PROSPERITY FOR THE FARMER. The unprecedented host of country merchants which has come to Portland for Buyers' Week tells only of now recall. Moreover, each new the Cascades and in the great valleys and make munitions. It was unable to west of that range of mountains. They have come in larger numbers to buy in greater quantities than last year

How could their customers be anything but prosperous with such crops of wheat, corn, oats, barley and other dinary and humdrum defects of city staples as the Government reports, and with wheat at 85 to 95 cents and likeated mean loss of a mint of money, ly to go higher; with a good wool clip has seemed beneath the dignity of an at war prices; with an expanding marefficial with an imposing title and a ket for a somewhat reduced crop of fruit; with Europe buying our hops; Mr. Simon Benson has now come with dairy herds thriving on abundant nanager of the city, with proper au- with great herds of beef cattle, sheep meat and gathering up our surplus horses; with fish to feed the armies as well as the peaceful folk? Here are buying that which will satisfy their customers' needs and desires, knowing lic meetings attended by those that this is not a year in which people will do without that which they

can well afford. The country merchant is best able to judge of the people's ability and willingness to buy, for he is closer to the foundations of prosperity than is he of the city. He knows now what he did not realize a year ago-that the war cannot for years to come injure the ice. Even then the work was so im-United States, but that, on the contragy, it has brought immediate bene-Fear of some undefined evil consequences from the war, born of conemplating its appalling magnitude and the dire misery which it brought to Europe, at that time restrained merchants from buying as liberally as they of psychology this fear was passed on to those who came to buy what they chant that business was slow. fear robbed the merchant of business

which he might have had. He is not repeating that mistake the year, for palsying fear has left the minds of both him and his customers rupts. The voters' opportunity to The farmers got top prices for big elect qualified men is restricted by conif not bigger, crops this year, and again at war prices. The unemployed have disappeared from the small towns to work in the great industrial centers. instead of organizing armies to terrorservices the city can take the initiative ize and prey upon the country, they and make an effer. But the mana-have become producers who will buy gerial system ought to be adopted, if

orders, supplying newly employed workmen with commodities which were formerly imported and supply ing foreign markets with goods which belligerents can no longer supply. Railroads are hauling trains loaded with this new traffic, they at last show increased earnings and they have gained courage to make improvements. Thus the prosperity which began with the farmer is being spread through the cities and begins to make new life pulse through all the arteries of busi-

There is every reason for confidence in the United States. Had the merchant and the farmer been able to foresee as clearly a year ago as they see now the effects of the war, they would have realized that it must have the very effects on this country which are now apparent. While impoverishing Europe, the war is enriching the United States. While loading Europe with debt, it is paying off American debts with American products. It has made the United States the chief source of supply for all that Europe needs. Far be it from us to gloat over a disas ter to our neighbors because it has brought profit to us, but, since we had no part in bringing the disaster about, we can with a clear conscience accept the benefits it incidentally brings to us. It has made the United States a good investment for all its citizens, for it has given them new cause for confidence in his country's future. Having such confidence and having

mbney derived from two bountiful crops to gratify their reasonable desires, the people of the country dis-tricts have good reason for rational spending. The merchants see that they have, and show good judgment in laying in supplies of that which their customers demand. This is the fruit of rural prosperity and it will bear new fruit in prosperity for the cities and the factories.

DEMOCRACY'S INEFFICIENCY IN WAR. The contrast between the thoroughness with which the German people were organized for war before war began and the struggles of the British has brought forward once more the ernment. Despite its King and aris-German empire is ruled by the Kaiser and his personally appointed Chancellor. The German empire was fully

ready on the day it declared war on Russia and has presented the most splendid example of team-work in deoting all its energies to military success ever since that day. The British empire was not ready. Notwithstand-ing the magnificent rally of its young men to the colors, and its great feats of arms on land and sea, it has only low begun the organization of all its resources in men, material and money or the war. Why this contrast?

It is all very well to say that Germany has for years been fearing waror planning war, as some prefer to in-terpret her attitude—while Britain did not fear or plan war and believed that seace would be preserved. That statenent bespeaks inefficiency among Britain's diplomats and those whose business it was to keep the government nformed of the military plans and preparations of possible enemies. It also betrays inefficiency of the rulers end the nation against attack and to assist its ailles in case they should be to stand alone at home for years

Waiving the matter of unpreparedness when the war began, still there was delay in taking adequate measures have been an odd member of his to carry on the war afterward. many and Austria in men, arms, in- get under cover in the rain. dustry, money and food were organized and at the disposal of the govern ment for war. The British government did not inform the people immediately of the deficiencies in their organization and of the necessity of making it as complete as that of Germany. The government did not claim the services of every man to fight, to make and transport supplies for the army and the people, to grow crops for the nation's sustenance. It did not take the measure of its enemy's resources in nen, guns and other implements of war and provide for overmatching him

in every respect, It called for volunteers and accepted married men while single men stayed prosperity in the great interior east of who were needed at home to mine coal being one reason given by Kitchener around. for not calling for more men and for because their customers are prosper- not proposing compulsory service. The mission was to introduce and establish ous, have money wherewith to buy and government let contracts for guns and hells to be delivered within a certain time and then sat down in blind confidence that the contracts would be filled. It did nothing at that time to impress upon manufacturers the ne essity of preserving peace with their workmen nor to impress on workmen the need of uninterrupted work at maximum capacity. In consequence, employers and workmen in the face of the enemy fought out their differnces by the old, wasteful method of strikes. When the necessity of vastly increasing the output of shells had been made obvious by reverses in the field, Premier Asquith still insisted that the supply was adequate and was merchants are banking on them by He and Lloyd George stirred munition workers to activity by addressing pubneeded no urging, while those who did need it were soaking in saloons.

Finally the London Times opene he nation's eyes by blurting out the truth. Not until then were proper measures taken to organize tion's industries, for war and to enroll the entire able-bodied population with a view to its use in the national servperfectly done that the South Wales oal miners struck for a week and imperiled the navy's coal supply. now, months after women had been clamoring to be put to work, are they being employed in large numbers Meanwhile Britain's ally, Russia, has een beaten for lack of guns, ammunition and particularly aeroplanes, which critain, the workshop of Europe, could ave supplied. The new army is tied by the leg in France and the Dardanelles expedition makes tortoise-like progress for the same reason.

The cause of this slowness of British statesmen in meeting a great military emergency is defined by the London Morning Post as "differences of opinon which concern methods of reachng the ultimate issue" and which arise from the difficulty of rapidly accommodating a slow-thinking and a rather obstinate people to an entirely new set of conditions, which they had years by a large number of im ersons could not possibly occur." The Post points out the root cause when it

It was the party system which caused a

total neglect of adequate preparation for war. Let us make no mistake about that. Both parties in politics were afraid to tell the truth, because they thought that in so doing they would lose votes. The people in general waited for a lead, and never got it. Under such conditions as these, amusing and profitable as they may be, there can be no such thing as a National policy. There are two policies, sometimes more, but never sees than two. These may even fundamentally mean the same thing; but the fact that they are upsied by rival factions prevents either one of them from being permannity adopted. In the case of adequate provision for National defense, of which both parties were equally afraid, and whose necessity was openly scouted by a party within

An ever-present menace made republican France measurably well prepared, but not nearly as well as her

can effectively wield the entire power of a nation to win victory. Joseph Chamberlain, who remained a radical of a nation to win victory. Joseph Chamberlain, who remained a radical even after he had become an imperialist, held this opinion before he left the British Liberal party. Asked how he thought Britain could conduct a war against a great continental military power he apswered: "Oh we wanted to wind the north and low hills in the south, invest it with unusual advantages for defense, while its level character facilitates transport. There are a few sloping, hilly tracts in the government, on the bank of the Bug, around Biala and in the middle. The marshes in the north and low hills in the south, invest it with unusual advantages for defense, while its level character facilitates transport.

There are a few sloping, hilly tracts in the government, on the bank of the Bug, around Biala and in the middle.

should be pursued continuously. tional defense has been shamefully neglected, and when its shortcomings are brought to light, officials try to cover them and to shift the blame. National safety demands that our deto form national adminstrations, unpeople to organize after the war began der which party strife is silenced. Their example should warn the Amerirelative efficiency of a democracy and can people to guard against danger of a more or less, autocratic form of gov- war by insisting that trifling with forwar by insisting that trifling with foreign policy for partisan purposes cease tocracy, the British empire is ruled by and that the defense of the Nation be swamp become so the people. Despite its Reichstag, the no longer neglected at the behest of frozen, dark earth. pork-barrel statesmen and dreaming pacificists.

> The poor judgment of President Wilon is shown both by his determination to pass the ship-purchase bill and by his choice of Secretary McAdoo to defense bills, such a cause of violent controversy should be avoided.

> Charles Heber Clark (Max Adler), who died yesterday, was a humorist of a generation ago, when the real funny men could be counted on the fingers of one hand. In those days the newspaper joke appeared to be spontaneous, whereas now it has the dryness of the kiln and the flavor of the pickle vat.

An Assistant Secretary of the Navy in the Roosevelt Administration is attempting to throw a small scare by asserting the victors in the war will come in not taking proper measures to de-this way to recoup losses. The vic-fend the nation against attack and to tors in this war will be well off if able

The colored man who committed suicide by drowning early yesterday must The man of African blood is too much intelligent Briton knew or should have of an optimist to take his own life known that all the resources of Ger- preferring to drift in the sunshine and

Governor Johnson's proposed heavy

somebody's business to see they are cut to at once, else they will rival the dande lion and marguerite, without the food value of the one and the homely beauty of the other.

The gang that numbered eight or te at home. It accepted as soldiers men that robbed the bank at Maple Hill, Kan., yesterday and got \$3000 did not secure enough loot to make a successequip the men newly enrolled, that ful raid. That is a small sum to go The buyers from upstate compare

vere not for the badges they would

pass for husky citizens of Portland, a little more frisky if anything. When it comes to doing good to the greatest number, the name of John F. Cordray goes well to the head of the list for his free entertainment of chil-

dren at his popular resort. It shows a mean disposition to re joice when a rascally lawyer is caught in crookedness, but it is a streak in the human being that cannot be eradicated

People who like to read clean humor with enough pathos for leavening suffer loss in the death of George Fitch in a California sanitarium yesterday.

France now has both Morocco and

hat part of Congo which she gave Ger-

many to clear her title. If she wins at the finish, she may keep both. The Nation will be unanimous that Colonel Goethals has done a good seven years' job and is entitled to a

change of scene. "The roast beef of old England" must give way to the cheaper cuts, for prices are becoming prohibitive to the common people.

Had the meteor shower fallen in England, everybody would have been out with a gun trying to pot an airship.

How the British tars must have

ached to have a chance at the German leet when it went out to attack Riga. Passing the whisky bottle is expen sive courtesy in some of the units of this humid region.

If the price of meat continues to oar, John Bull may become a vegetarian.

The printers gathered up the "phat" at Venice yesterday. That Taft grandson must be named

European War Primer By National Geographical Society.

Siedlee government includes all that part of Russian Poland through which the Tsar's armies are reported to be retreating. On every side German armies are pressing upon this central Polish government, which is now asuming its great historic interest as a theater where the most stirring events of the world war may take place.

Siedlee government forms the heart of Poland, screened behind the Vistula and Bug rivers, toward the west, north great adversary. Party controversy cand raged furiously around the three such. It is also more closely related to Russia than any other part of the South. It is also more closely related to Russia than any other part of the Polish province. The great trunkline railways binding Warsaw with petrograd and Moscow cross Poland within this government, and some of the most favorable Polish wagon roads also run over its plain toward the Russian border. Its river boundaries all around it, together with extensive sian border. Its river boundaries all around it, together with extensive marshes in the north and low hills in

war against a great continental mili-tary power, he answered: "Oh! we should have to appoint a dictator."

The same elements of weakness in the British democracy which have been emphasized by the war exist in it, or 48 per cent, is under crops, and the American democracy and the same another 17 per cent is in meadow and the American democracy and the same lessons are to be drawn. What the Post says of Britain is as true of the United States. Foreign policy has been made a party issue, although the National interest requires that it should be placed above party and trially. It supports about 1,000,000 population. Na- ulation.

It was at Pultusk, on the north bank of the River Narew, that Charles XII of Sweden won his celebrated victory over the Saxon armies, the flower of National safety demands that our defense, like our foreign policy, be above party and be the first care of every administration. Actual war has driven democratic France and Britain like a state of the fortress town. This victory was won in 1703 to further Charles' least as to how the republic of Poland ought to be governed. Pultusk was ought to be governed. Pultusk was again the field of a great battle action, when, in 1808, the irresistible, triumph-drunken legions of Napoleon swept all before them out of the strongholds here. This battle was fought over the icy fields of December, when morass and swamp become solid foundations of Pultusk is one of the important for-

tified towns, which, spread out fan-wise, guarded Warsaw from the north and west. It lies 23 miles north of the metropolis, with the Narew River at its back and the Bug 15 miles to the south. While strongly defended, it does not compare in the power of its works steer it. Statesmanship dictates that, with Novo Georgievsk or Ivangorod, when support of all parties is needed of its, however, one of the important for his foreign policy and for National gates on that line toward the capital, which takes its way from East Prussia over Mlawa, Ostrolenka and Przasnyz.
The town, with a present population
of about 20,000, has shared in the
Polish industrial spurt. It was almost Polish industrial spurt. It was almost entirely destroyed by a great fire in 1875, and the rebuilding has made it a place greatly in advance of the usual Polish towns. A textile industry has taken root. Woolen and linen goods are manufactured, and, stimulated from Champitr, the great Garman center for Chemnitz, the great German center for the manufacture of stockings, a hosiery fabrication has been developed. Large copper works and potteries are also among Pultusk's leading businesses. The place is very old, having been founded in 956.

SWISS NEWSPAPER NEUTRALITY Publication of Abuse or Ridicule of Foreign Nation Is Punishable.

MT. ANGEL. Or., Aug. 10.—(To the Editor.)—It may be of interest to your readers to learn how the Swiss press is made to observe neutrality in the present conflict which is raging all around

Switzerland. late regulations for the observance of tax on inheritances is one of those neutrality. Accordingly, the President

tax on inheritances is one of those things which are good in theory but don't work out in practice. The tax would cause rich men to divide their estates among their heirs before death and leave little to tax.

Thistles are in full bloom and it is somebody's business to see they are cut somebody's business to see they are cut and fine.

Whoever exhibits, spreads or sells publications, pictures or representations which contain an abuse of a foreign nation, ruler or government, shall be punished by imprisonment of not more than three months or a fine not to exceed \$200, or both.

I might add that in Switzerland laws are enforced and conscientiously kept by all classes of the people; also that the measure has been limited to that the measure has been limited to the duration of fhe war and is, there-fore, not intended as a permanent curb to the liberty of the press, but as a war measure to insure the neutrality of the little republic in a time when hidden sympathies are easily fanned well in set-up with city people. If it into flames of passion and open par-

ticipation in the strife.

Would it not be well for the American press, in these critical times, to emulate the Swiss press? As it is, the attitude of the American press does not compare favorably with that of the swiss press, which gives the war news from all sources without partiality and prejudice. The comparison be-comes still more odlous when we re-member that Switzerland, like the United States, is composed of several nationalities, German, French and Italian, and that it might naturally be expected that each nationality would side with its kindred nation—which, no doubt, they all do, privately. But in spite of this composite character of Switzerland and in spite of its geographical position in the midst of na-tions at war, the Swiss government has so far kept clear of all entanglements (even though a few Swiss citizens chose to travel on the ill-fated Lusi-tania and perished with it) and has ipplied the neutrality laws impartially and to the satisfaction of all the bellig-

In conclusion, is it too much to say that, as the Spanish-American War was provoked by the yellow press of this country, so the same press will be held responsible before the tribunal of his-If we are drawn into the whirlpool of the present war?

Foreign Born and Military Service. AMITY, Or., Aug. 9.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly advise if a native-born Hollander who has not served his required time in the native army, but who has declared his intentions to beome a citizen of the United States. can be compelled to return to Holland to serve in the army. SUBSCRIBER.

He cannot be forced to leave this country for military service in Holland, but it is possible that if in future he placed himself within the jurisdiction of Holland he might be punshed for failure to respond to the call.

PORTLAND, Aug. 10.—(To the Editor.)—Is it legally possible for a man in Oregon to sell his wife? "A" says it is, and he recalls an article published in The Oregonian a few years

ago, which he says supports his argu-ment. "B" thinks he is mistaken. Will you kindly settle the dispute through the columns of your paper. A SUBSCRIBER. has, perhaps, been done.

OREGON HAS MINERAL WEALTH Resources in Precious Metals Bound-

less, Yet Largely Neglected PENDLETON, Or., Aug. 8 .- (To the Editor.)-Along with the scramble of meseekers for fertile land in Oregon. more interest ought to be taken in the gold fields of this state. The sunny netal certainly exists in countless millions in the quartz ledges of the Blue Mountains in Eastern Oregon and in the Cascade Mountains in Southern and Western Oregon. The yellow metal will some day be delved from the mighty mountain ramparts south of lordly Mount Hood, near Mount Jefferson and the Three Sisters. Portand, Salem, Albany, Eugene, Roseburg. Medford, Grants Pass and Ashland will hear the talk of gold and gold mining near at hand, as well as

liscussion of grain, fruit, vegetables, horses, cattle, sheep and swine, and like products from the breast of Mother Earth. As reported by The Oregonian Au-gust 6, 1899, gold-bearing quartz from the Bohemia district, near Eugene, was assayed in San Francisco at over \$2000. per ton. Fifty years ago The Orego-nian stated that quartz from the Santi-am River country, in the Cascade Mountains near Salem, assayed better than \$500 per ton. Why are these rich facts practically now forgotten or

overlooked. Since the outset of placer mining in Baker, Union and Grant counties, in 1860-62, there has been piped and washed from those Eastern Oregon mountains, around pioneer Auburn. Sparta and Pocahontas, Malheur and Canyon City not less than \$125,000,000 in gold, and very probable more. Auter County and was headquarters for 10,000 miners, and fortunes in gold nuggets and "dust" were taken out by the millions. And, after over 50 years' operations, there are still good dig-gings and placer gold galore in East-

ern Oregon. In common parlance, placer or nearsurface gold is a drift from the higher quartz-rock ledges. Quartz mining is in its infancy in Eastern Oregon, but millions in gold have come from under the thunderous stamps of the mills, from the cyanide plants and smelters.

Against the wide world, the Oregon mining exhibit at the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco has won the grand first prize, Why should not the mining industry take the lead in Oregon? This refers to the delving for money stuff, gold and silver, and the hearty reception. The Emperor delivers and the hearty reception. The Emperor delivers and the hearty reception. The Emperor delivers and the learn reception. burrowing for the useful metal, cop-per, as well as for building stone, granite and marble. Two food producers are supported in

feeding every miner. Agricultural, livestock, fishing and manufacturing industries are boosted and increased by mining. Mining ought to be a larger asset for the people of the commonwealth of Oregon.

During years that I have been em-ployed as a newspaper writer in East-ern Oregon many incidents and true stories gleaned by myself, and many others of the newspapermen's broth-erhood, seem positive proof that the half has never yet been told of the countless treasure of gold locked in the vaults of the Eastern Orgon Blue Mountains. While merely a fair min-ing start has been made, there are now scores of producing mines and hun-dreds of promising properties in the mineral beit of 200 miles by 50 miles

in Eastern Oregon-Idaho.

Seven miles east from the city limits of Baker is the famous Virtue mine that has yielded millions. Once, from a pocket in one of its rich white quartz ledges, \$65,000 in gold was lifted. This pocket, or treasure hole, was only large enough to admit the head and shoulders of a miner.

The Bonanza mine, the father of Albert Geiser, of Baker, was nearly sold for a span of mules. A few years later, after the Geiser family was enriched by a few hundred thousands in Bonanza gold, the property was sold to an Eastern syndicate for \$500,000 cash.

In No. 3 tunnel of the Iron Dyke mine, near Copperfield, Baker County, in the grand canyon of Snake River, I walked through 400 feet breast of an underground "opurry" that assayed the father of Albert Geiser, of Baker,

Switzerland.
On August 3, 1914, on the eve of the declaration of war by England, the national assembly of Switzerland authorized the federal President to formuthorized the federal President formuthorized the federal President formuthorized the federal President formuthorized millions of tons of copper ore of equal richness and of copper "peacock" beauty, too, await the delver for wealth.

California, Nevada, Colorado Montana have no mineral fields that "showed up" as richly, at the outset of mining there, as the only "scratched" gold and copper belt of Eastern Ore-gon-Idaho. All Oregonians should encourage the Oregon gold and copper mining industry. When Oregon min-ing is properly prosecuted, and loyally supported, all other industries will be aided. The Oregon gold, as well as the grain and fruit from her farms, the julcy meat from her livestock herds, fish from her lakes, rivers and coasts, will give peace and plenty to her peo-ple and to the "millions yet unborn." the "millions yet unborn JOHN W. ELLSWORTH.

POREIGN CARTOONS ARE INFERIOR Americans Are Far Ahead of European Brothers in This Field.

EVERETT, Wash., Aug. 9 .- (To the Editor.)-In The Oregonian August 7 a "Constant Reader" criticises American newspaper art in a rather sur-prising manner and I consider your editorial comment, while holding up for the living cartoonists, entirely too meek in reply. Writes Constant Reader: "Why not

give us a standard equal to that of our foreign brothers?" etc.
Foreign standard, indeed. Let Constant Reader invest 59 cents in two numbers of the Cartoons Magazine, one dated before and one after the begin-ning of the European war. Compare the European cartoons with the American and it will take but a short study to convince yourself that if there is one field where Artericans need little forfield where Arericans need little for-eign teaching it is in cartooning. We need no "able writer who is an author-ity to give us a lengthy discourse,"

"Where are the Nasts, Davenports and Tenniels?" They are right with us, although their work hasn't grown musty yet and been stamped O. K. by the "able writer who is an authority."
Our Constant Reader is evidently the kind of person who borrows his opinkind of person who borrows his opin-ions from the able writers and lengthy discourses, but who hasn't the energy to form real opinions of his own or to become a "two bit pen slinger."

I am not in the habit of ranting about art in fact always feel that the less said about art the better, but in this case I believe anyone has a good right to take up the pen. Having been raised in Europe and being familiar with the German and Scandinavian languages, there are many things European I think better than American, but I do not think that all of the European papers and magazines, even in peace times, produce as many excellent drawings, full or wit, humor, etc., as do the American. J. NELSON, do the American.

TILLAMOOK, Or., Aug. 8.—(To the Editor.)—The Oregon school laws provide that \$5 per cent of the money received by a school district from the general school fund shall be expended for teachers' salaries or returned to the general fund. If a district receives more from this fund than it uses for teachers' salaries, but instead of returning the surplus to the general turning the surplus to the general fund it uses it for buildings and other improvements, and the County Super-intendent consents to this use of the money, who can compel its return to the general fund? INQUIRER.

The State Board of Education has It cannot be done lawfully, though it the power to compel its return if the law has been violated in this way.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of August 31, 1890.
Yesterday was a black-letter day in
the history of Portland as far as fatal
accidents are concerned. Three men
were killed by accident. William
Hunter, a young man of 22 years, was
drowned in the Columbia Slough. Conductor Joseph T. Janking. luctor Joseph T. Jenkins, on ond-street electric motor killed by falling from a trestle bridge on the Fulton Park end of the line, a distance of about 75 feet. Arthur Cos-grove, aged 28, fell while making a parachute jump from a balloon at Al-bina and was instantly killed.

A large crowd witnessed the last game of the Portland series. Portland played a listless and amateurish game and the Spokanes won their 10th suc-cessive game by a score of 22 to 6.

The extension of the Willamette Bridge Company's electric motor line to the center of Irvington is rapidly near-ing completion. The wiring of the line will be completed this week and everything is expected to be in readiness for opening the line by September 1, as the case should be here before that time.

The window frames for the second story of the Marquam block are being put in and considerable progress has been made in the walls of that story.

Russell street is still in a miserable and dangerous condition. A sewer is being laid on this thoroughfare and little or no care is taken to prevent accidents to the traveling public. The ditch is dug over two blocks in ad-vance and left exposed without any danger signal. In some places the ditch is 12 feet deep.

The returns from the Western district confirm the judgment based upon those from Eastern Oregon and Portand that the census of the whole state has been most vilely botched. It is bad enough in Portland, but it is worse in the state. The people of the state knew it, too. There is a chorus of protest from one end of Oregon to the other.

Berlin-The German imperial vacht hearty reception. The Empered livered a short address and the man flag was hoisted. In his s Minister von Boetticher dweit the significance of the event as show-ing the depth of friendship existing between the two nations and said he hoped the two armies would never be divided and that the lofty which the Queen on this occasion given proof of would ever be

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of August 11, 1865, The rooms of the Portland Library Association are open to the public every day and night in the week. The library is furnished with 1500 volumes of the best historical, political and miscellaneous works extant. We have pleasant and agreeable rooms, the lat-est publications of periodicals, etc., and among all a glorious future for a lew years to make changes in favor of best institution that has yet been inaugurated in our midst.

yield of fruit than Oregon can boast f the present season. Large, ripe, calthy apples, peaches, pears and healthy apples, peaches, pears and plums. It makes one feel like melting to think of them. We visited the or-chard of Dr. Watkins recently and were perfectly astonished at the prouction of a few trees. Of plums the doctor has abundance. Three trees produced what was disposed of at \$40 cash, besides considerable more used by his family, and there is ripening at

We notice in our exchanges that our friend Thomas Butler, editor of the late Boise News, was among a party on the Red Bluff and Owyhee trail Tom was not massacred, but he He has always been an ad vocate of the Red Bluff route, but it is no objection to the trail that Indians continually infest it,

The steamer Rescue is fast approach-When again ready for ing completion. When again ready for the trade, she will have extra cabins and fine accommodations for the in-creasing travel between this city and the Cowlitz River country.

A dozen head of cattle, each wearing a bell, yesterday passed through the city, embarking for the East Side at the Stark-street ferry. The serenade called out a crowd at every door and window along the street.

Washington street is still lighted at night by the blaze of the fires in the woods on the western borders of the city. There is no further damage expected in consequence of the fir

The only states in the Union in which slavery now has a legal existence are Delaware and Kentucky, in both of which it will doubtless soon be abolished.

How to Combat Undertow.

PORTLAND, Aug. 10 .- (To the Editor.)-As an old surf bather and surf lover I ask you to publish a partial preventive against accidents from undertow in the ocean, which I know from experience on the beaches to be effective. It is: Don't attempt to fight against the undertow by either attempting to walk or run or even swin Any undertow, while looking and be. ing most formidable, is gone in a few seconds usually, perhaps never more than half a minute. When you see it coming stand face towards the shore

coming stand face towards the shore and brace your feet and legs against it, but never attempt to move your feet or you are pretty sure to be swept off your feet, and in a very short time the power of the water slackens. I have not only done this myself many times, but when bathing with women and when bathing with women and young girls have told them to do the same, and always with the same result.
In swimming, if you get caught with the undertow, you are usually all right if you let yourself go with it for short time. G. W. TAYLOR.

Criticism of Calvary Sergeant. Judge. Calvary Sergeant-I told you never

to approach a horse from the rear without speaking to him. First thing you know, they'll kick you in the head, and we'll have a bunch of lame horses on our hands.

Overlooking the

Inability to see the obvious is striking "gift" with some people. They prefer will o' the wisps to

realities. If every advertiser sensed the obvious he would be a newspaper ad-

He would reach the people the easiest and least expensive way. He would put his advertisements where people would read them when the buying impulse was forming. And the result would be increased pense.