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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, NOV. 16, 1916.

GETTING ONTO FIRM GROUND.

The Interstate Commerce Commission at last realizes that, in tampering with the natural economic relation between rates to Coast points and rates to interior points, it has been floundering in a bog of uncertainty and it is trying to get onto firm ground again. That is the conclusion to be drawn from its latest order in regard to Pacific Coast terminal rates. It has canceled all the increased rates to and from Pacific Coast terminals against which shippers had protested and has ordered much smaller increases, on which shippers and railroads have compromised. It is admitted that the latter rates may prove to be only temporary, for hearings are to be held on the entire question of exceptions to the long-and-short-haul clause of the act of 1910.

The Commission thus reopens the entire controversy between Coast and interior cities, which it attempted to settle by the order fixing zones within which interior rates might exceed Pacific terminal rates by certain percentages. Its new order is an admission that one of the conditions on which its former order was based—the closing of the Panama Canal—no longer exists. The announcement that hearings will be held on the general question of water competition implies that the Commission is in doubt whether the zone sytem which it adopted to placate Spokane can be maintained.

In fact, the zones were no sooner established than the conditions then existing were changed by the opening of the Panama Canal and the transcontinental railroads began to lose traffic in large volume to the water lines. The war diverted ships from the intercoastal traffic and the Canal was blocked for the greater part of a year, thus reducing water competition from an actuality to a mere potentiality. This was the opportunity of the interior, and it eagerly seized the occasion for a demand that, as water competition had been eliminated, the differential be also eliminated. The Commission yielded, but before its order was made the Canal was reopened, thus making water competition a more immediate potentiality.

Still there were practically no ships, but the Pacific Coast set to work to provide them. Builders are putting new life into every Pacific Coast port, and it is highly probable that before the Commission can render a new decision on the main question, a considerable fleet of new ships will be carrying Pacific Coast products through the Canal to the Atlantic Coast and Europe, thus making water competition so big a fact that the Commission, however unwilling, cannot fail to see it. Every blow of the hammer on a new ship on this Coast punches a hole in the theory whereon the Commission's recent decisions relating to water competition have been founded. The economic law governing water competition works out its effects faster than the Commission can evolve decisions setting it at naught.

Nor is the Commission's zone system of percentages by which rates to interior points may exceed terminal rates fixed on any firmer foundation. If the rate from Missouri River common points to the Pacific Coast is 75 cents, this system permits the addition of only 5¼ cents for the 415 to 500 miles between the Missouri River and Chicago, only 11 cents for the 865 to 900 miles between the Missouri River and Pittsburg, and only 19 cents for the more than 1400 miles between the Missouri River and New York. Doubtless a haul of 3000 miles can be made at a less rate per mile than the haul of about half that distance from the Missouri River to Portland, but if 75 cents is a fair rate for half the distance, an additional 19 cents is utterly insufficient for the other half.

The Commission has gone astray through trying to find a common basis for two things which can have no common basis. The only sound basis for rates to interior points is reasonableness as determined by cost and distance. The only sound basis for rates to Coast points is the price at which a railroad can get a good share of the traffic away from the water lines and still make some profit, though that profit be at a much smaller rate than that which is earned on interior traffic. The duty of the Commission is to see that these competitive rates are not unjustly discriminative against interior points. The only safe guide in determining this point is the back-haul rate from the Coast to the interior. A Spokane merchant can have goods shipped by water to Portland, and from this port by rail. If the all-rail rate from the East to Spokane should exceed the sum of these two rates, it would be discriminatory, though the railroad can charge a higher rate for hauling freight across the continent than is paid on water lines and can still get traffic.

As was well illustrated in a recent article in the Oregon Voter, water-competitive rates to Coast points are a benefit instead of an injury to interior points. Though the railroad makes only a small profit on this through traffic, that profit helps to pay its general expenses. If it were not permitted to make rates which would enable it to get business in competition with water lines and to earn this profit, the contribution made by interior traffic to its general expenses would need to be increased, which would mean higher rates. It is immaterial to the Coast merchant whether his freight is brought from the East by ship or rail; if the railroad cannot compete, he will use the ship and still get his goods into Spokane at lower cost than the Spokane merchant pays for the haul westward. He has the whip hand, as will soon be seen when the ships now building go into business. The interior has the choice between packing the entire load of railroad expense and dividing it with the Coast.

There will doubtless be able and eloquent lawyers to argue the intermountain rate cases before the Commission, but the most convincing argument will be the great fleet of ships built on the Pacific Coast and carrying our products to the Atlantic Coast, some of them to return with cargoes of Eastern products.

WARDEN MINTO'S RESIGNATION.

The "hosing" of two convicts at the State Penitentiary has led to the retirement of the warden, John W. Minto. Evidently Mr. Minto has not kept up with the times. He belongs to an era which regarded a convicted malefactor as subject to strict and severe discipline, and an incorrigible prisoner as one who must be controlled by physical punishment. That old methods were often cruel is undoubtedly true; and that many of them should be abandoned is the enlightened opinion of humanitarians and prison experts. But let us not forget that Warden Minto has had a long experience with criminals and that he is known to be a fearless, upright, conscientious and capable citizen.

It is more than a surmise that in his administration he has been victimized by disloyalty among his subordinates and it has not been easy for him to enforce necessary prison rules.

Let us agree that "hosing" is wrong. But will someone let us know what to do with defiant, insolent and intractable convicts? Or is nothing to be done?

WHY?

The state of Oregon has five votes in the electoral college and casts about 250,000 votes. The Solid South (excluding Missouri) has 126 electoral votes, or nearly one-half the number necessary to name a President and Vice-President of the United States.

Oregon with five electors cast on November 7 more votes than Alabama, with 12; Arkansas, 9; Florida, 6; Louisiana, 10; Mississippi, 10; South Carolina, 9; Tennessee, 12; Georgia, 14; or Virginia, 12.

Oregon cast in round numbers twice as many votes as Alabama; twice as many as Arkansas; three and a half times as many as Florida; three and a half as many as Louisiana; two and a half times as many as Mississippi; three and a half times as many as South Carolina; twice as many as Georgia; three and a half times as many as Virginia.

Either Oregon has inadequate representation in the electoral college, or these states have more than adequate representation, or both.

The case of Oregon is the case of every other state in the North and West.

Yet they tolerate a condition which has existed without change, or readjustment, for fifty years.

Can anyone give a single reason why the South, or any section of the country, or any state, should be given a preponderant representation in the electoral college, or in Congress?

This is not sectionalism. It is a plain statement of facts.

DRY NATION NEXT?

Mr. Bryan now proposes to devote his energies and talents to the huge task of "making Democracy dry." He has a notion that the next four years will see the settlement of all economic and political questions by the Democracy, under the direction of President Wilson, and that the way will be open to take up the liquor agitation.

Mr. Bryan may succeed. Stranger things have happened. But if he does, there will be a new Democracy on the wreck of the old. For that matter, the present-day Democracy has been so completely Wilsonized that Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson would repudiate it.

Mr. Bryan now finds nearly one-half the states of the Union already dry. Michigan, Nebraska, South Dakota and Montana have joined the prohibition column, and Oregon has become ultra-dry. Alaska has returned to its former status as dry territory. Utah and Florida have elected Legislatures with a mandate for dry laws. Think of the consternation in the Winter lobster palaces of the southern state. Where will they go next? Or must the kings of Broadway and queens of Newport stay at home?

New days bring new issues and new ideas. To be sure, prohibition is not a new idea, but nationally it has made little progress and has within just a few years passed from the category of freak notions to a serious problem pressing for solution in every state. Undoubtedly both great parties will be up against the necessity in 1920 of recognizing prohibition or taking a stand against it.

FILLING THE SILO.

In this sharp weather a good many farmers will open their silos and begin feeding silage—many of them for the first time. Soon they will know whether they put the materials in in the proper shape and gave due attention to packing the fodder in the right way. In particular it will pay those who put up corn silage for the first time to examine the product carefully and see whether it is of proper consistency and flavor, whether it has the right amount of moisture, and whether the corn when put in was over or under ripe, so that they will profit by their experience next year and in the years following.

It is a simple thing, say those who know, to fill the silo just right at the right time, and have the contents come out in just the right way. No doubt it is simple to those who know, but it is by no means simple to the beginner, who has to follow the best advice he can get. There are no hard and fast rules as to the amount of moisture to include in the materials when packing. There are, indeed, no rules for packing the silage in the silo that do not vary. Experience is about the only sure teacher.

It is only a few years since silos were almost as scarce as white blackbirds in the Northwest. Now there are perhaps well over 100,000 in Oregon, Washington and Idaho—with hundreds under construction. The farmer is wise who puts up silage. Take corn, which is the best-known silage material. It is said that half the value of the corn is in the ear and half in the plant. If the crop is allowed to mature and is husked and fed, the first apparent loss is the cob, the second the stalks, for the leaves and tender shoots can be fed. But after they are fed there is a net loss of fully 40 per cent from failure to utilize stalks and cobs. In the silo the entire 100 per cent is saved.

It is said that, taking an average yield of corn, it costs about $3 a ton to raise a crop of corn and put it in the silo. Some say the figure is too high and place it at nearer $2 than $3. Those who know say that a ton of silage has as great feeding value as $7 worth of grain.

Yet part of the feeding value is lost sight of in such calculations, for there is a value arising from the better conditioning of stock when fed in liberal quantities over grain-and-forage-fed stock. Experienced feeders say they can tell silage-fed stock by the looks of the hair of the animal, by the brightness of the eye and the general air of prosperity, so to speak, evinced in its appearance and carriage.

DIAMONDS AND SHIRTS.

Some strolling writer, wearing the resounding name of Rollin Lynde Hartt—(yes, there are two t's)—has come out to the Middle West for the purpose of studying the curious denizens of that barbarous region, and he reports his discoveries in the December Century, in an article entitled "Middle Westerners and That Sort of People." We have heard many things about the queer natives of Kansas and Iowa and the rest, but never before that they were a sort of people.

Mr. Hartt finds the Middle West paradoxical, quixotic, possessing a genius for sentiment, inartistic sometimes, inarticulate often, but never insincere except toward itself. As a basis for this mixed verdict, he cites such convincing and damaging facts as the stories that a Middle West savant once pronounced Mr. Carnegie a more exalted genius than Shakespeare; that a Middle Western library, reserving space for art treasures, filled it with Christy posters; that a Middle Western grande dame enlivened a fancy-dress ball in Chicago by exclaiming, "Here comes my husband in the garbage of a monk!" and that a certain Middle Western state superintendent of education wears a diamond stud in a negligee shirt.

Evidently the Middle West must plead guilty. But we'll wager a bushel of Umatilla wheat, or a Medford pig, that the average Pendleton or Medford boy or girl knows more about art than the average Broadway theater-goer or restaurant habitue; that he or she knows more about literature; that he or she is a more regular patron of the public library; that he or she attends more constantly the school or lyceum lecture; and that he or she is deficient, as compared to the Broadway or Fifth-avenue aristocrats, only in exact knowledge as to the appropriate uses of diamonds and negligee shirts.

ELIJAH WAGNON.

In the bitter hour of defeat, Brother Wagnon, one of our esteemed prophets of single tax, has turned for consolation to the scriptures. Brother Wagnon, it appears, like others in sore distress who have sought surcease within the ample covers of the divine word, has not sought in vain. It may be gathered from the letter, which we publish from him today, that Brother Wagnon has discovered himself to be something of an Elijah, still walking the earth for lack of a fiery chariot.

But Brother Wagnon, it must be feared, like other prophets of the single tax in Oregon, lacks something else which Elijah had in ample proportions and what it is we shall presently and pleasantly disclose. For the moment it is meet that we reject the soft insinuation that the tale of Elijah and the 450 unfortunate prophets of Baal will provide us with a novel diversion. That dramatic story was quite a Sunday school favorite when middle-aged men of today were gaining their first lessons in the power of faith supported by truth. Presumably it still sheds the light of piety upon the mind of youth.

The story as we recall it is that the 450 prophets of Baal laid a pile of faggots, prepared a sacrifice, then called and called and called upon Baal to start a fire, without result.

But Elijah also built a pile of fagots, laid a sacrifice thereon and even dug a trench around the altar and poured on water until the trench was full. Then he called upon his God just once and the fire of heaven came down and consumed faggots, water and sacrifice. So Elijah took the 450 prophets down to a brook and slew them.

Now if Brother Wagnon is a latter-day Elijah and we are King Ahab, who supported the prophets of Baal, then Brother Wagnon is consumed with a horrid, horrid ambition if it is to take our 450 prophets of the Taxpayers' League and the Realty Board down to the Willamette River and chop their heads off. It might have been all right in the stern days of Israel in behalf of a religious cause, but not in these mollycoddle times when the soul shrinks from bloodshed and there is only an economic revolution at stake.

It is possible that Brother Wagnon would not have gained so much bloodthirsty comfort had he read a few chapters further. There is there the story of the King, who coveted Naboth's vineyard, even as the kings of the Havenots today covet the vineyards of the industrious. But let that pass. The point we started out to make is the differentiation Brother Wagnon and his fellow-prophets of single tax bear from the prophet Elijah.

It will be observed that Brother Wagnon proclaims the ultimate triumph of truth as he sees the truth in spite of the 450 who are against him. Elijah's faith was not of the future. It was of the present. He wetted down the faggots, he made the job of setting them afire as difficult as possible. But the faith-lacking Wagnon and his fellows present their great truth with all the doubt that assailed a certain other also of Biblical fame.

No water for their pile of faggots, but gasoline, tar and other applications conducjve to spontaneous combustion. They have never yet had the faith to present single tax honestly, openly and above board. They try to slip it over. When Brother Wagnon can show that Elijah's twelve barrels of water were in fact coal oil and that he sneaked up when nobody was looking and applied a Bunsen burner, then he can properly liken himself to his favorite prophet.

Faith no larger than a mustard seed exemplified in a real single-tax measure would have gained more votes for their principle than all their obliquity, piled as it was as high as Mount Carmel.

The Federal Bureau of Education is urging that states encourage attendance in the schools by passing laws patterned after that in Nebraska, which bases the distribution of three-fourths of the state school fund upon the actual average daily attendance returned by the directors of the various districts. This law is praised by the bureau as appealing to the "enlightened selfishness" of the people themselves, who are thus stimulated to endeavor to have as many pupils attend school as possible. The burden of a reasonable school term, which is desirable from the point of view of society in general, is equalized by the equal apportionment of the remaining one-fourth of the state fund, and where a district votes the maximum tax and conducts its business properly, the state gives direct aid sufficient to provide a minimum term of seven months.

FLIES IN WINTER.

Because Summer has gone is no reason, in the opinion of the entomological bureau of the United States Department of Agriculture, why people should relax their efforts to "swat the fly." On the contrary, it is urged that this is the time to conduct the campaign with unceasing vigor, since flies are induced by the warmth inside to enter the house and are the more easily killed. The importance of the Winter campaign can be realized only by those who know about the amazing fecundity of flies. The Government bureau already referred to estimates that one female fly surviving the Winter will have 5,598,720,000,000 descendants by September, on the basis of a single laying of eggs, while as a matter of fact three or four broods are not unusual.

Whether flies breed as actively in Winter as in Summer, even in well-warmed dwellings, is doubted by investigators, but that they do multiply when conditions are especially favorable is strongly asserted. Favorable conditions are found, for example, in heated houses—and Americans are said to keep their houses warmer than is necessary for real comfort—in restaurant kitchens and in furnace-rooms. It is true that the larger proportion remain dormant through the cold season, but the fact is important that they survive at all.

It has been found that housecleaning in the Winter, or even early in the Spring, before the dormant flies have fully awakened, is effective in ridding premises literally of thousands of the pests. Stress is placed also upon the necessity for making their destruction complete, since in rubbish piles they may subsequently spring into activity again and be as much as ever a menace.

The swatter, therefore, is not the only implement that should be employed in Winter. Every crevice should be searched out and every possible hiding place thrown open to the dust brush and broom. Timely work now will save much trouble later. The Government's advice will not be necessary for the most careful of housewives, but there are others, not habitually so painstaking, who would do well to heed it, beginning now.

Fuel shortage is a serious problem in the small town, distant from timber, that depends on coal brought in by rail. Seldom anybody but the banker thinks of laying in a supply in the Summer, and when shortage comes it hits everybody. A former mode of relief was to levy on coal in transit, possible only on a main line, but this opportunity has been lessened by the adoption of oil for fuel.

The esteemed Portland Oregonian thinks Oregon voted for Hughes because this state is not "too proud to fight." If they will cast an eye over the election returns they will discover that the so-called heroic section is small in area.—Pendleton East Oregonian.

Do we understand that a hundred-odd thousand Democrats—and others—voted for Wilson in Oregon because they are too proud to fight?

The Poles are in much the same position as the Irish held during Ireland's dark days in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. They had no chance to fight for Ireland, but there was an Irish legion in almost every army on the continent of Europe, and they fought fiercely when they met the English.

It is well enough for President Wilson, who draws down $75,000 a year, to advise farmers to raise bigger crops, but he knows little about the cost of growing bigger crops and the difficulties of harvesting them, and he seems to have left the weather wholly out of account.

As to Utah, Wyoming and Idaho it is plain that the Mormon Church had a "revelation" in favor of the Administration, but why did radical Oregon support Mr. Hughes, while Washington, its neighbor on the north, plumped for the President? — New York Globe.

Radical Oregon? Ouch!

The State Supreme Court decides that a man of 77 has a right to marry again, no matter what "the folks" think about it. The privileges that go with being free and an American citizen arrive late occasionally.

Miss Sharpley, who was able to talk $80,000 in unsecured loans out of various people by her persuasive powers, will not be a genuine expert until she has performed the same feat on a 5 per cent a month man.

There is no cause for surprise at the ability of the British to steal up on the Germans through a fog. They have had many years' practice at groping through fogs in London and mists in Scotland.

Kansas City and Jackson County voted "dry," but the Missouri majority was "wet." Now those people will seek relief under local option, and the signs point toward getting it.

Antagonism toward the parcel-post system is shown in the latest order limiting the amount that can be sent to a person in an outlying district.

Great Britain has removed the ban on cotton hosiery until the first of the year. British sisters want something new and will have it.

The wild man of the Clackamas Cascades turns out to be a lunatic. In seeking the wilderness he only followed his simple bent.

The prospect is that the only persons to get an early advance of wages through the Adamson act will be the railroad lawyers.

Labor Commissioner Hoff estimates Oregon's population at 834,515, subject to addition by a somewhat diffident stork.

It is too bad the best of the deported Belgians cannot be brought to Oregon. They would make good citizens.

The President waited for the full count before designating Thanksgiving day.

The result last week seems to have put a frost on the whole country.

Two weeks to Thanksgiving, and how high is the turkey?

Stuffing the ballot box is something new in Idaho.

Stars and Starmakers

By Leone Cass Baer.

A WHOLE chapter might be written about the visit, a day or so ago, of May Dowling, personal representative of the Shuberts in New York. Miss Dowling is a young, attractive newspaper woman, who does publicity work for this big theatrical concern—and when there's an especial pet show in which the Shuberts are especially concerned they trot out the fascinating Miss Dowling as an advance agent. So that is how she happened to visit us—touting the excellencies of "Hobson's Choice," which opens tonight at the Heilig. The show has an all-English cast of artists and is a capital farce comedy. The chapter that could be written about Miss Dowling concerns mainly the fact that women are taking the place of men in this work and getting away with it in great style. One reason I don't write it is because I'm not a suffragette. The other reason is that May Dowling is the only woman I know in the business. Minus statistics, exit the chapter.

* * *

Sarah Padden told me a funny story of a cunning wee Chicago kiddie she knows. He was eating cherry pie and ran across a hot bite after he'd popped it plump into his mouth. Manfully, he struggled with the burning bite and finally gulped it down to the accompaniment of tears. When he discovered he was attracting admiration he smartly took a wrong tack and began poking about, hunting another hot bite—to be a hero all over again. Miss Padden noticed that he was picking out cooled bits and using a lot of dramatic antics, and she said, "Oh, you're stalling now—you're stalling." The future actor gulped a really hot bite and sobbed, "Gee, that wasn't a barn."

* * *

Emily Frances Bauer, the Portland critic of things musical, who makes New York her habitat, so that she may tell her old friends about the various artists she hears and sees in the metropolis, has informed Portland that there is a treat in store for music lovers here. Craig Campbell, one of the extra attractions of the Orpheum show to open at the Heilig next Sunday, is the artist about whom Miss Bauer has words of laudation. Mr. Campbell was garnered for Martin Beck's vaudeville from the Little Church Around the Corner, the corner in New York where he was the tenor singer. Miss Bauer attended one of Mr. Campbell's concerts in New York and she was so impressed with his singing that she described it as "consummate art, sheer beauty of vocalism," in her review for The Oregonian. Mr. Campbell is appearing in vaudeville under the management of Payson Graham. This is his first tour in the two-a-day realm, but he is not new to the stage, as he was with Emma Trentini in "The Firefly," "The Music Cure" and other musical comedies. Of interest to musicians is the announcement that Mr. Campbell sings the aria from "La Boheme" in the original key and that he has the reputation of being the only tenor before the public who sings a C sharp. Mr. Campbell is young and of Scottish descent.

* * *

Right now I see where a lot of girlish boys are going to meet their Waterloo in Boston. That hub of culture has a city censor, by name John Casey. He is keen on the morality code stuff—with a Mayor to back up his philanderings. His specialty is covering up bare legs and smothering suggestive gags, on the stage, of course. Now he is out for dope scenes and sissy types of men. All female impersonators who don't tone down their femininism to suit Censor Casey will be barred from appearing.

Al Jolson struck a snag last week after "Robinson Crusoe, Jr.," had been witnessed by Casey, objection being made to the scene where the spirit of Captain Kidd, the pirate, emerges from a magic well and speaks in an effeminate manner. The feature, a real laugh producer, will be modified, but not eliminated.

* * *

"A Kiss for Cinderella," Maude Adams' new play, which comes to the Empire in New York Christmas week, is to remain but eight weeks, unless the piece goes over unusually big. Miss Adams expects to spend the remainder of the season on the road, where she is practically sure of capacity business, and that means a trip to this Coast in the Spring.

* * *

And maybe we will never hear the real story, the inside one, of how and why Eva Tanguay didn't come to Portland. Eva says one thing and her manager another. I'm inclined to believe the manager, William Morris, and yet Eva also has a right to have her say. Stories of trouble and bad business have been coming along ever since the road show set out six weeks ago. Last Saturday night, in San Francisco, the I-don't-cariah-one left the stage and didn't return. In explanation Eva said: "I left the Morris show because my contract read I was to receive my salary every night. After we were seven days away from New York, Mr. Morris informed me he could not pay me and two days later borrowed $500. In Denver I loaned him $1000.

"Meanwhile trouble was brewing every minute. With my voice gone I even appeared with only a piano player in my act, to keep going, but finally gave two weeks' tentative notice. I was willing to continue, but by the time we reached San Francisco Morris owed me over $5000. He would not give me a statement of the amount due me nor acknowledge he owed me anything, but accused me of faking an illness, although at the time I was ill I had four doctors in attendance. The accusation by Mr. Morris convinced me consideration on my part would not be appreciated, and I closed, as per my notice, the remainder of the company also having had notice."

Explaining his side of the disagreement, Morris said:

"It's the old story of 'temperament.' I have had trouble with Miss Tanguay all along the line. When she opened here she stirred up a terrific row about the orchestra, but she got over that, and, in Los Angeles I got a telegram from her saying that the orchestra had been fixed up, and that she would stick to the last, and that whatever I said 'went with her.'

"I supposed everything was all right, and then when I reached San Francisco, I learned that a local theatrical reviewer had criticised her severely, and that started the temperamental business all over again. I tried to nurse her along, but it was no use, and I was not surprised when she refused to appear Saturday night."

So there you are!

VOTES OF THE "SOLID SOUTH."

Writer Discusses Representation in Electoral College.

PORTLAND, Nov. 15.—(To the Editor.)—In your answer to Mr. Fry, of Beaverton, on November 11, in discussing the "solid South" situation you say: "For many years the right of suffrage has in fact been denied to negroes by force or fraud in many Southern states, and Congress has authority under the above provision to reduce the representation of those states; several attempts have been made to exercise that authority, but they have failed through Democratic obstruction in Congress."

The mere fact that an honest deal in the "solid South" has heretofore failed by reason of "Democratic obstruction" does not seem to the writer any reason for permitting the fraud at this time and in the present election.

Representation in Congress and electoral votes in the electoral college are based upon population excluding Indians not taxed. That is to say, the negroes are all counted in determining the electoral votes to which any Southern state is entitled. Take the state of Georgia, for illustration. The last census gives Georgia 1,431,802 whites and 1,181,294 blacks, or 2,613,096 total population. The number of electoral votes claimed and allowed is 14, or one to every 200,000 of the population, including the negroes. From the figures given it is clear that approximately one-half of this representation is based upon the negro population.

So far, so good; under the Constitution the negro is entitled to be counted, and in fixing the representation in Congress and the number of electoral votes any state is entitled to cast in a Presidential election no distinction is made between white or colored population, all are counted.

But, "for many years the right of suffrage has in fact been denied to negroes by force or fraud in many Southern states." That being so, the white population is not only defrauding the negro, but by claiming the entire representation of the state and actually voting the electoral votes allotted to the entire population of the state (negroes included) is defrauding every state in the Union and every citizen of the United States whose vote is put in jeopardy by this action. Every 200,000 of the white population of Georgia, by this fraud, has two electoral votes instead of the one vote to which it is entitled under the Constitution.

Fraud in a Presidential election should give no better right than in an ordinary commercial transaction.

The total vote for President in Georgia, as given by the newspapers, was 137,200. Dividing the negro population by five to arrive at the probable number of negro voters, we have 230,647, or more than 100,000 negro voters in the state than the total number of votes cast in the election.

In Minnesota and California the Nation is watching with deep interest the official count; possibly a fraud has been committed; maybe some precinct has been inadvertently overlooked; and if the vote now recorded shall, in Minnesota, be changed by a few hundred, or in California by a few thousand, the result in the state and possibly in the Nation will be reversed. Why then, should the United States meekly submit to the fraudulent electoral votes of the "solid South" without which Mr. Wilson cannot be elected?

ROBERT M'BRIDE.

MR. WAGNON QUOTES SCRIPTURE

Inspiration for U'Renism Found in Tale of Elijah and the Prophets.

PORTLAND, Nov. 15.—(To the Editor.)—Your questions about the "pesky singletaxers" must be answered, as it grieves me to see my old progressive friend, The Oregonian, with its economic wires crossed at a time like this.

It is evident that your political motor has a bad short-circuit in both fields and the armature, to say nothing about the dust on the brushes. So, anything that I can do to start the normal flow of juice once more shall be done with pleasure.

You know that something is wrong about our land system and complain about its unuse and you blame the land taxers, and in that you are like a certain standpatter who lived in Israel in the time of Elijah (see I Kings, 18:17-18). It is good reading and I hope you will read it. You see, at that time they had an election between the Democrats, led by Elijah, and the Republicans, led by a man named Ahab, who had a wife named Jezebel. Ahab and his wife believed in the protection of Baalim, and Ahab defeated Elijah by a majority of 450 to 1. It was a real landslide to Ahab. But the protection of Baalim did not bring prosperity to Israel. So Ahab said Elijah was the cause of the hard times that lasted for three and one-half years, all of which time Elijah was boarding with a widow and taking no part in the politics of Israel; yet when Ahab saw Elijah he said: "Art thou he that troubleth Israel?" and Elijah answered: "I have not troubled Israel, but thou and thy father's house in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and followed Baalim."

Then Elijah called a meeting on Mount Carmel and made a speech to the people, and that speech caused the recall of some 450 of Ahab's officers.

You and one Charles K. are much like Ahab. You think that the "land taxers," or "U'Renism," are troubling Oregon, when it is the men who boom land prices and build $2,000,000 hotels in a place where no hotel should have been built, and that try to corner the land of Los Angeles with money made out of Laurelhurst. "You ask how long Oregon is to be troubled with single tax laws. Let me answer that single tax is a truth, and you may kill all living singletaxers, like Jezebel tried to do with the prophets of the Lord, but it would come up again as soon as men commenced to think.

All truth is the voice of God, and if single tax is a truth, "if it be of God ye cannot overthrow it lest haply ye be found even to fight against God."

Truth he is God's warrior;
He will out-watch the stars
And light the heavens
When the last star falls
And the silent dark devours.

H. G. WAGNON.

ENFORCING THE DRY AMENDMENT

Governor Urged to Invoke Webb-Kenyon Law by Proclamation.

EUGENE, Or., Nov. 15.—(To the Editor.)—I would like to address the following open letter to Governor Withycombe:

I see by the press that you are uncertain about the enforcement of the bone-dry amendment; that it cannot be enforced by reason of lack of penalty. This is to urge you to issue your proclamation and invoke the Webb-Kenyon law of the Federal Government against all common carriers, and we will have prohibition that will prohibit. We have had two years of legislative prohibition and under its provisions any person that had a thirst and money to pay for quenching it could import 24 quarts of distilled liquors and nine barrels and nine quarts of malt liquors. Is it any wonder that there has still been some consumption of the same?

Do not wait for the Legislature, or when we expect to score on a "touchdown" we will lose on a fumble, the same as we did two years ago.

O. L. HALL.

Classification of Methods.

Industrial Management.

Since different procedure must be followed in establishing methods in various businesses, it is evident that a complex business must be analyzed and classified into simpler forms better to study and to provide for the requirements of each.

In Other Days.

Twenty-five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian November 16, 1891.

New York, Nov. 15.—Memorial services for the late Charles Stewart Parnell were held tonight in the Academy of Music. Chauncey M. Depew was the eulogist.

Reports from Brazil say the revolution there seems to have been successful. Discontent is spreading.

Omaha, Nov. 15.—Captain Hattie Smith, of the Salvation Army band at Oskaloosa, Iowa, was shot and killed by Nettie Biedler in the presence of La Marchale Booth-Clibborn and her brother, Ballington, during their visit here today. The Biedler woman then killed herself.

Miss Hattie Clow, daughter of the Junction City statesman, is at the Holton.

Thieves have been breaking into the houses at North Beach. Among those entered were F. A. Knapp's, H. Wittenburg's, David Steel's, J. M. Arthur's, Hotel Tiago and P. F. Moray's.

Captain Kelly, of the Irish tug-of-war team, yesterday bet $500 with Captain McDonald, of the Canadian team, that the sons of Erin would defeat the Canucks tonight.

A fire yesterday threatened to destroy the Centenary Methodist Church. Quick work saved the edifice and held the damage down.

Rev. I. J. Hoyt was arrested yesterday for poaching on private hunting grounds along the Columbia Slough.

Frank L. Howe and Etta H. Warren were married by Justice Bullock yesterday. They will live at Brownsville.

Arrangements have at last been made to build the sorely-needed union depot. Mr. C. H. Prescott has returned from New York and is authority for the statement that the work will go ahead.

Half a Century Ago.

From The Oregonian November 16, 1866.

The New York Evening Post has recently printed an interesting article on the steps which led up to the saving of Oregon Territory to the United States. The facts were brought out by an elaborate paper read by Mr. Trent at the meeting at Pittsburg of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

The firm of Nevison, Scott & Co., of White Bluffs, Washington Territory, has been dissolved and Henry Nevison is the sole successor.

Boise City, Ruby City and Idaho City have been designated as money order postoffices in Idaho.

Captain Kelly, late of the Volunteer Cavalry, has assumed command of Company C, First United States Cavalry.

James Lenaghan, 11 Washington street, will give $10 to the man who cuts his billiard table cloth between 6 and 7 o'clock last night if that man will come and tell him what he did it for.

The City Council last night adopted resolutions of thanks, commending Mayor Henry Failing for his able and conscientious work as Mayor of the city and head of the Council. Mr. Failing is about to leave on a trip which will keep him away for some time.

OTHER STATES NEED ITS LIKE

Country Would Be Different With More Papers Like The Oregonian.

North Yakima Republic.

We have seen the returns from Oregon and have noted what The Morning Oregonian of Portland has to say about the state standing for sound principles of public action in great emergencies. We are moved in this connection to point to a moral and adorn a simple tale. For many years Oregon has had a newspaper which was conducted by men who knew their trade and respected it, who neither feared their own shadows nor battened on their own importance. Day in and day out this paper has spoken earnestly and authoritatively to the people of its state. These people have come to know that in it they have a guide and counsellor which is never swerved from the straight line of its great duties by any petty personal or political motives nor by any unworthy considerations. Hence they believe in it and accept its leadership as a general thing. Sometimes they go faster than it goes, but they seldom get hysterical about the silly schemes of the political idiots. In The Oregonian, the greatest single force on the Pacific Coast for half a century for rational thought and action concerning all public matters, is found the explanation of the unusual exhibitions of good sense which the people of Oregon make on election days. What a different country it would be if there were an Oregonian for every state!

Seeds and Appendicitis.

PORTLAND, Nov. 14.—(To the Editor.)—(1) People have told me that swallowing grape seeds is liable to cause appendicitis. Is this true?

(2) I have a friend who winks his eyes more than a person should, occasionally drawing up the corners of his mouth while winking. Does this show that the eyes are in a bad condition? If not, what is the cause?

SUBSCRIBER.

(1) No.

(2) Your friend probably has what is known to the medical profession as "habit tic." It is a condition in which there is an involuntary movement of voluntary muscles due to acquiring the habit of moving a certain group or groups of muscles and finally being unable to control them. The eyes may or may not be affected. Eye strain might have a tendency to cause a tic of the eye muscle.

Negro Who Accompanied Peary.

PORTLAND, Nov. 15.—(To the Editor)—Can anyone tell what has become of the colored man, Matthew Henson, who accompanied the explorer, Peary, on all of his North Pacific expeditions after the first, and invariably attended him on each of his farthest sledge trips, because, as Peary says, of his fitness, adaptability and loyalty; standing by Peary's side on the North Pole (if Peary really stood there), April 6, 1909? Henson is now about 50 years old, if living, and has the United States Government made any acknowledgement of his invaluable services?

C. E. CLINE.

Idaho's Vote in 1912.

ONTARIO, Or., Nov. 12.—(To the Editor.)—(1) Did Idaho vote for Taft or Wilson in 1912? (2) When did women first vote in Idaho? SUBSCRIBER.

(1) Wilson received a plurality of 1111 votes over Taft in Idaho in 1912.

(2) Full suffrage was granted to women in 1896.

Admiral Dewey Still in Service.

COSMOPOLIS, Wash., Nov. 14.—(To the Editor.)—Please tell whether George Dewey is on the active list of the United States Navy or is retired.

W. L. SNELL.

Admiral Dewey is still in active service and since March 29, 1900, has been president of the Navy General Board.