Morning Oregonian

ESTABLISHED BY HENRY L. PITTOCK.

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WILSON AND CHAMBERLAIN.

President Wilson notifies Oregon democrats, and through them democrats of the nation, that their duty is to stand by the Versailles treaty and covenant without reservations. Mr. Wilson does not distinguish Senator Chamberlain by mentioning his name, but unquestionably he has Chamberlain in mind. He has also in mind the twenty other democratic senators who, in the final emergency of certain defeat for the unamended treaty, sought to save the great project of the league of nations from complete wreck by taking what they could get. Evidently the president is determined that Chamberlain shall be beaten for his refusal to make personal allegiance to him the supreme rule of his action. The test of faith in democracy shall be faith in Wilson.

There are democrats in Oregon who have sought to apply the same acid test to other democrats. Now they have the stamp of the Wilson approval for their course.

Formerly the democracy here was divided into Chamberlain and anti-Chamberlain factions. Now the dividing line, drawn by the president himself, is to be between the Wilson and anti-Wilson factions. No democrat can both be for Wilson and for Chamberlain. Some there are who will pretend that two horses going in different ways can be ridden by the same man at the same time. But now they have it on the great authority of Woodrow Wilson that it cannot be done with the Wilson horse and the Chamberlain horse. They must ride the Wilson horse or not ride at all.

Mr. Chamberlain is a party man with reservations in favor of preparedness, patriotism and peace, and his reservations have continually got him into trouble with Mr. Wilson and the Wilson group, because they have either brought him into direct conflict with the president or have caused him to start for the goal by other routes than those which Wilson chose. He arrived at the preparedness goal a year and a half ahead of Wilson, and when Wilson fell in line he tried to carry the senate farther than Wilson wanted to go. When he found that the war department did not function in war, he said so and proposed plans to make it function. For this offense President Wilson attacked his veracity, yet in effect conceded it by forcing on congress a plan of his own which not only did what Chamberlain had sought but clothed the president with autocratic powers. Yet Chamberlain accepted that plan as the only attainable means of effectively prosecuting the war. When the treaty came before the senate, he stood by the Wilson plan of securing its ratification long after The Oregonian had recognized that that plan meant no peace and no league. His mind reluctantly ceased to travel along with Wilson's and asserted its independence at the last moment, for party still had a strong hold on him.

The president's condemnation of all democrats who voted for the Lodge reservations will give joy to those Oregon democrats who are impelled to seek Chamberlain's defeat, some of them from motives of personal antagonism because through him they have been thrown out of office or have failed to get office. They will use the president's declaration to enlist against the senator all those who accept Wilson as the sole oracle of democracy and all who value party regularity above all else. Whether Chamberlain can compensate for the hostility of the national administration by gaining votes of republicans and others who favor the Lodge reservations is very questionable.

The same censure which Mr. Wilson visits on the Oregon senator will also extend to the other twenty senators who voted with him for the Lodge reservations. These twenty-one are only two less in number than those who joined the death battalion in killing the treaty rather than accept such modifications as would have insured ratification. If this division be fairly representative of the division among democrats generally, then the president consigns to ostracism almost half of his party. A man's democracy is no longer to be determined by his adherence to democratic principles or even to the interpretation of them by the party platform; it is shown by his acceptance of the treaty as it was signed at Versailles as the one means by which the United States shall gain peace and shall join the rest of the world in preserving peace. In all such matters they are to accept Mr. Wilson as their unembarrassed spokesman without the advice or consent of the senate or any other body or person.

The twenty-one reservationist democrats and their followers cannot be expected to remain silent or unprotesting at the primaries, still less so at the San Francisco convention. They include men whose minds have been in the habit of thinking out independent conclusions, men who earnestly desire the same things which Mr. Wilson desires but who have their own opinions as to how best those desires are to be attained. In Mr. Bryan they will have an aggressive, resourceful spokesman who is especially unembarrassed. They will certainly join him in resisting any attempt to read them out of the party or to include in the platform any condemnation of their course regarding the treaty. If the convention shall offer the people a ticket pledged to a policy which has failed to bring peace, and a platform which denounces the action of almost half the party on the chief issue of the campaign, the fight between the two halves of the democracy will be no less fierce than that between the democratic and republican parties. Schism threatens to be the result of Mr. Wilson's claim that he is the sole interpreter of democracy and that all who do not follow him must be cast out.

NOTHING TO FEAR.

Nobody wants to send the Standard Oil company or its Oregon representatives to jail if they shall sell in the open market standard gasoline of less than the required (56 degrees) proof. The authorities are ready to assure them that they will be protected, and join in urging them to consider the plight of Oregon and certain of its industries and to furnish the gasoline.

The oil company, it is said, wants a proclamation of the governor suspending the law, and guaranteeing immunity, or something of the kind. The law is the law, however senseless it may be, and the corporation will take no chances. But how can the governor repeal a law?

Let us suppress an inclination to jibe at the company's solicitous concern for the law, even for a foolish and hurtful law, and do our part to assure its sensitive management that it will be entirely justified in assuming that its responsibility to the public in providing gasoline is quite as heavy as the duty of public officials to withhold enforcement of the purely technical requirements of an unintelligent statute.

The recent legislature should have repealed the gasoline act. But it did not. The reasons were doubtless that certain timid legislators did not want to be identified in any way with any measure that seemed to favor the Standard Oil company. The chief reason that such legislators are made timid is that unscrupulous newspapers and demagogic politicians, directly or by implication, often brand them as crooked or venal or corporation-owned—or perhaps as being creatures of the mythical salmon trust or paving trust—when they give an honest vote on a measure in which a corporation has any concern.

In this case the people of Oregon are footing the bill for legislative cowardice, induced by journalistic and political bully-ragging.

WHAT IS IT FOR?

The Evening Telegram, which has displayed a lively interest in election of members for the next legislature, informs a more or less concerned public whom it is against, but has up to this time been silent as to whom it is for—except as to those rare and all but solitary members who are "right" on fish and paving legislation. It has created a wicked salmon trust, which has spread its choking tentacles to the game interests of the state, and hammers the awful creature to the dust every day; and it sees in every act of every legislator who is not in accord with its scheme of controlling things political the criminal manipulations of the paving interests.

Now the Telegram is tearing the "old guard" to tatters and warns the public against sending any of them to Salem. Included in its index expurgatorius are such outstanding members of previous legislatures as I. N. Day, E. V. Carter, W. H. Gore, K. K. Kubli, Denton Burdick, W. B. Dennis, Pat Gallagher, E. G. McFarland and others. Our bogy-smashing contemporary is against them. Thus it shows that it is against experience, competence, independence, progressiveness, conservation, initiative and sanity in a legislator.

It will be interesting to hear whom and what our hysterical friend is for. We may judge, perhaps, by the commendation it recently gave the candidacy for re-election of Orin R. Richards of Multnomah to the lower house at Salem. Mr. Richards was "right" on the Telegram's fancies and hobbies. That was enough. Here are some of the other features of his record, as summarized by the Oregon Voter:

> Introduced more freak bills than all others combined, some of them vicious.
>
> Radical anti-trust bill, including discredited restrictions aimed to damage business in general.
>
> Female as well as male marriage examination.
>
> Was one of four to vote against anti-syndicalism bill.
>
> Voted against road bond bill.
>
> Voted against market road bill.
>
> Voted for anti-injunction bill, legalizing picketing and other such practices.
>
> Only member to vote against Port of Portland bonding bill.
>
> One of three to vote against bill prohibiting aliens from fishing in Columbia river.
>
> Voted against constitutional amendment providing for voting by absent Oregon soldiers.
>
> Voted against bill prohibiting exclusively foreign language publications.
>
> Voted against soldiers' educational aid bill.
>
> Voted systematically with radicals, for all freak legislation and for all bills aimed at business or industry.

This is the Telegram's conception of a sound record. So far we know only that the Telegram is for Mr. Richards. We shall await with interest publication of the remainder of its ticket.

THE FALL OF CARRANZA.

Carranza's power in Mexico has collapsed with a rapidity which bespeaks almost universal disgust, and within a month after the revolution began he is a fugitive. The unanimity of the Mexican people is shown by the voluntary withdrawal from the field of the bandit, Villa, after leading his band into the revolutionary ranks.

President Wilson seems to have been a poor hand at picking a winner among the claimants to power in Mexico, or at picking a man who would set up a democratic, civilized government capable of pacifying the country, renewing its interrupted progress and performing its obligations to its neighbors. Mr. Wilson aided powerfully in driving out Huerta as one who had seized power by violence and had maintained himself by crime and tyranny. To Mr. Wilson's aid in occupying Vera Cruz and in alternately placing and lifting the embargo on arms Carranza's success was mainly due.

He was rewarded by wholesale murder of Americans, by contemptuous disregard of demands for punishment of the murderers, by treacherous attacks on American troops when they pursued Villa, by violation of the rights of Americans and by laws confiscating their property, and by making Mexico the headquarters for German propaganda in the western hemisphere and the refuge for alien enemies and slackers. Carranza's correspondence with Wilson was marked by studied insolence which in other days would have been cause for war. Carranza's rule was as tyrannical, cruel and corrupt as that of any Turkish sultan. He failed to pacify the country, for at all times since his accession to power one or more states have been in open rebellion against him, and he utterly failed to run down Villa.

These are the fruits of watchful waiting interrupted by ineffective intervention in Mexico. The stampede to Obregon's standard raises hope that at last the people are sick of bloodshed and tyranny, and will accept a government which approaches civilized standards. The manifestos which the revolutionists have issued also promise some consideration for the rights of Americans and other foreigners. But it is unsafe to predict anything in regard to Mexico. The Lest of which it is capable at present is a despotism similar to that of Diaz, marked by an effort to educate the people and gradually to lead them into the ways of true democracy. If rival leaders should begin a new civil war, the United States may be compelled, for the sake of its own peace, to establish order in Mexico.

WHILE THE LAMP HOLDS OUT.

The Oregonian has a letter from a reader, with a request to print, which it is highly pleased to do in this conspicuous fashion:

> What particular thing or things have you against Hiram Johnson? Is it just because you do not entirely agree with him or he with you? Has he ever done anything in his public life that you can call un-American? A lot of the other candidates are good men, and probably make good presidents, but don't you know that the American people like fair dealing and I do not think that some of your editorials are along those lines. Johnson took the stand against the League, on the start, after it had been read over here, and he has not wavered. If I am not mistaken, The Oregonian sided with President Wilson on the league of nations and advised that it be ratified without any change; later it changed its policy and demanded reservations.
>
> If I am not mistaken again, The Oregonian, not many years ago, roasted Roosevelt unmercifully in its editorials, and several months before his death it commended him highly. This change of heart did not come on account of any change in Roosevelt's policies, did it?
>
> Be consistent; the American people will like you all the better.

Much as The Oregonian aspires to be liked, it does not court popularity on the narrow and exclusive ground of consistency. Let our anxious correspondent take heart of hope because of what it considers the changed attitude of The Oregonian toward Colonel Roosevelt and toward the league of nations. Some day it may find something in the record of Senator Johnson to commend. We are not a little discouraged at the prospect, when we contemplate the perversity of the senator in knocking right and left at everybody who disagrees with him and everything that displeases him. But who knows? While the lamp holds out to burn, etc. Even the senator's pugnacious temper may soften in time.

The particular thing or things The Oregonian has against Senator Johnson are that he stands against vital things which The Oregonian approves and for some revolutionary things which The Oregonian opposes. It is not necessary to enumerate them herein; but it will be done, as it has been done, in due course. Besides, The Oregonian does not like the Johnson plan of bulldozing a political party to nominate and support him, on penalty of being destroyed. Such cave-man methods please some people. They do not please The Oregonian.

Let us say, also, in fairness to ourselves, that The Oregonian criticised Colonel Roosevelt at times and praised him at times. An undiscriminating consistency would have demanded, doubtless, that he be either praised or blamed all the time. Likewise it has approved of many things the president has done, and disapproved heartily of many other things. We wish mightily that he had done more things lately which The Oregonian could approve.

BLUEBEARD AND HIS PROTOTYPES.

One of the more obvious lessons of the adventures of the "modern Bluebeard," James P. Watson, or Huirt, or Lewis—his true name does not much matter—is that women ought not to marry strange men, however fascinating. It is plain that no man in the prime of life can have had time to acquire twenty wives by devoting to each the courtship which would seem to be decent, or at least expedient, as a preliminary to every marriage, and if Watson's victims had been only ordinarily prudent some of them would doubtless have been spared. Yet we do not suppose that the experience of the seven beautiful women to whose murder this twentieth-century Chevalier Raoul has confessed will deter many thoughtless women from similarly venturing into strange waters without first making an effort to sound their depths. Watson is still an object of inexplicable romantic interest to a certain feminine type. It is not hazarding much to predict that if he were to be released from custody tomorrow he would be able to resume his fatal practice of marrying without embarrassment.

The Bluebeard tale runs through the folk lore of many countries, and is one of the literary clews that betrays our common origin. The name is taken from the story written by Charles Perrault toward the end of the seventeenth century. The Chevalier Raoul, whose nickname was derived from the color of his beard, married seven wives. Six had mysteriously disappeared and the seventh, Fatima, was made the subject of an extreme test of wifely obedience and repression of feminine curiosity. Being obliged to absent himself from his castle for a time, Raoul, so the story runs, committed the keys to Fatima, enjoining her that she might freely enter any room she chose except one. Curiosity enhanced by loneliness led her to disobey her lord and master, who, returning and discovering her disobedience by the blood on the key, informed her that in five minutes she must die. From a turret, however, her sister Anne discovered horsemen approaching in the distance, the tale continues, and they proved to be brothers of the wife who arrived just in time to rescue their sister and to kill Raoul.

This Bluebeard may have been recreated by Perrault for a purpose beyond that of pure entertainment. It is suspected by critics that Perrault was disturbed by the beginning of the awakening of social consciousness in women and contrived the story as a kind of warning to them. The satirical allusion to curiosity as the particular attribute of women is as old as time. As a warning to disobedient wives the story might have been effective in 1697, though it hardly would be so today. Generally speaking, while it has been as widely read as any tale of fancy ever written, it has made no deeper impression than most of the medieval legends that have been handed down in story form.

We can only speculate as to who the prototype of the Bluebeard was. He may have been Gilles de Laval, called by some authorities Gilles de Rais, or Baron de Retz, who lived in Brittany in the sixth century. A similar legend persists locally concerning one Comorre the Cursed. De Laval, or whoever he was, fought bravely against the English in their invasion of his country but achieved distinction, in a time when personal valor was not particularly uncommon, by being diabolically cruel. The more or less authentic histories of Gilles de Rais indicate that he had only one wife, who survived him, but that there were many murders to his credit. Other Bluebeard prototypes have furnished material for more scientific but less romantic psychopathic studies.

Resemblance of the story to the tale of the Third Calendar in the "Arabian Nights" is striking. There are thirteenth century frescoes in which the legend is depicted. Count d'Amezeuill turned it into a charming fairy story in his "Legends Bretonnes" and in "The Feather Bird" of Grimm's "Hausmarchen" three sisters are the wives of the murderer, the third being rescued by her brothers. There is an Esthonian legend of a husband who has already killed eleven wives when he is prevented from killing the twelfth, who has opened the door of a secret room, by the intervention of a gooseherd, the friend of her childhood. Still another Bluebeard legend is that of Saint Trypine, whom her husband wounded and left for dead, but who was restored to health by Saint Gildas.

We find occasionally another narrative, which we prefer to disbelieve, which makes out the Bluebeard to be a kind of hero, deceived and mistreated by his many wives. This, too, exists in many literatures, showing how men may have been leagued together by a common motive to preserve the name of the sex from degradation by minstrels and fable-mongers. But it is the Perrault version that chiefly has survived, minus the moral it may have intended to teach. It represents in perfection the psychology of the vacation best-seller for the matinee-idol worshipping type of woman, symbolizing the perils of the great adventure, matrimony, and conveying with proper deference to the rights of down-trodden females the idea that it is the woman who pays—which, plainly enough, was not at all what Charles Perrault was driving at.

You've got to hand it to Burns, over in Harney valley, a long way from a railroad, ready to entertain all who come to a big cattle and horsemen's meeting. For years Burns was "top hole" 150 miles from the locomotive by the easiest route; when once it is on a railway line it will be a wonder—if the bunch stays alive.

Judge Wade Cusning of Ohio, who wants to be vice-president and "general manager" of the United States, is more of a "comical cuss" than his title infers. His idea is to let the president get the glory of the big things, while the vice does the real work. Imagine a president like Wilson with that kind of doormat!

A Chicago man who had 2000 on his "sucker list" in the prairie states has been indicted in Kansas City after gathering $200,000. For that he possibly will get a few years in jail and come out with a new fraud. The easiest work on earth is to take other people's money.

One fears to speak of the Beavers ascending in the table, lest the charm be broken. May they stay away and luck attend them, is not the most kindly wish to be made, yet a Beaver at the top away from home is more heartening than one in the hole here.

The war department is said to be worrying over the problem of what to do with its generals. Why not send 'em to Mexico? Fifteen generals were killed in one battle there the other day.

Willetts is dead. He paid for his lapse with his life. It is another instance of the human equation, the fallibility of man, that occurs daily and all the time, though seldom of such expense.

The federal "booze hound" for Washington need not worry about the increased consumption of Jamaica ginger. The man who drinks that to excess will not last long.

The weatherfolk are tiring of these pleasant days and talk of rain. If it comes it will help the lazy man who has not done all his spading, but nobody else wants it.

A burglar trying to rob an east side home fled when a woman screamed. Nobody has yet improved on the police whistle Eve invented.

Debs will run from a standing start in Atlanta prison and a world that does not understand American politics will wonder at it.

Our eminent attorney general should change his name from A. Mitchell Palmer to I. Mitchell Palmer.

The public would like to see a little cornering done of the men who are trying to corner the necessities of life.

Now that the Poles have chased the reds out of Kiev, the market for soap in the near east may pick up.

Portland had its Sunday calamity, but it was man-made and not of the elements of the air.

Watson (Huirt) goes to prison (for life—joke) and the hangman has a "kick" coming.

The president seems bound to find out whether he can trust the country.

Evidently the president doesn't consider "our George" to be "my George."

HOW PRESS VIEWS MILLAGE BILLS

Many Up-State Newspapers Indorse Tax for Higher Education.

Bend Bulletin.

Either the new tax must be voted or many young people denied the opportunity of an education. If any are turned away your boy or girl may be among them. Will you vote to keep them out of college?

Benton County Courier.

The unexpected shortage of funds now seriously threatening to check progressive agriculture, as well as agricultural education and higher education in general in Oregon is due to two wholly unrelated and unforseen developments within the state. The first is the resistless tide of students from Oregon's grade schools flowing to the higher educational institutions through the most extensive high school system of any state in the union. The second is the check administered to increase of taxable property within the state, as rated by the various county assessors.

Equipment Greatly Outgrown.

Eugene Register.

Oregon has less equipment than Washington and is using it 50 per cent more.

Let Pruning Be Elsewhere.

Western Farmer.

When there is any thought of pruning public expenditures, it should be cut from some other branch of public service. We may light our footsteps from the lamp of experience, but education teaches us how to make the light and what it consists of.

Issue Is Good Institutions.

Baker Democrat.

If Oregon wants good state educational institutions the taxpayer must support them to a point where they are able to meet the demands made by increased population.

Disgrace to Come With Defeat.

Eastern Clackamas News, Estacada.

If these institutions are prevented from lack of means properly to fulfill their mission, it will be a disgrace to the state, injuring it in more ways than one; and in the end it will prove a most foolish and short-sighted policy.

Hit by H. C. L.

Medford Mail Tribune.

It is foolish to expect to pay twice as much for everything in creation and pay no more for taxes. As the cost of conducting private business has gone up, so has the cost of conducting public business.

Good Work Must Go On.

Lebanon Express.

Oregon has reason to be proud of her past record along educational lines. The work has progressed wonderfully in the last few years, and our state institutions of advanced learning have attracted students from many states in the union. The beginning has been made, and for the credit of the state the work must be continued.

Just Like Stock Company.

Cottage Grove Sentinel.

Here is a case in which you are a stockholder. The legislature is the board of directors. The employes are the state educational institutions of Oregon. The board of directors has asked you to meet on May 21 to vote on the question of doing justice to these institutions. Suppose it were your personal case and the stockholders should turn you down. What would you do? You would quit, of course. That is what hundreds of the best teachers in our colleges have already done.

Only One Way to Aid.

Pacific Homstead of Salem.

The one way that the absolutely necessary financial aid to each of our three educational centers is to vote "Yes" on the higher educational tax act.

Must Pay for Good Things.

Weston Leader.

Oregon cannot expect to take first rank in education without paying for the privilege.

Penalty of Languishing Colleges.

The Dalles Chronicle.

If bolshevism is to be encouraged, if warped ideas and absolute ignorance are to be sought for, if shiftless, dependent men and women are the scene of civilization, if savagery and barbarism are to prevail, then, of course, higher education will perish from Oregon. Otherwise, however, vote for the increased millage bill, May 21.

Defeat Would Make Outlook Bad.

Roseburg News.

Both proposed laws are apparently needed at this time. The growth at the college, university and normal school has far outgrown the income, and although the very best of education is being given at the present time, the outlook for the future is very bad.

Education Safest Anchorage.

Albany Democrat.

It is through the education of the people, the superior intelligence of the residents of Oregon over those of most every other state in the union, that we are able to work out successfully our system of self-government. Let's not forget it, and vote for the millage bills.

Not Deaf to Common Sense.

Ontario Argus.

Oregon is not a backward state; it is a progressive commonwealth, and as such it will certainly not be deaf to the common-sense appeal for better treatment of its teachers.

Good Investment.

Malheur Enterprise, Vale.

No investment will repay the taxpayers comparably to the investment in better manhood and womanhood.

Old Incomes Inadequate.

Hubbard Enterprise.

Can a nation be at war for two years and more and taxes remain where they were before the war began? Can extensive road-building campaigns be inaugurated; can extraordinary demands be made upon our schools at such a time; can state and county hospitals be maintained at the old rate when our private affairs cannot? These are only a few of the contributing causes.

Marion Opponents Hard Boiled.

Aurora Observer.

Sixty hard-boiled antis, calling themselves the Marion County Taxpayers' league, have arrayed themselves against any further aid for Oregon's schools and colleges. It cannot be possible that this bunch, headed by Alex LaFollett, E. Hofer and Pete D'Arcy, represents Marion country's attitude towards the schools and colleges of Oregon. If they do, God have mercy on Marion county.

Broad Outlook Needed.

Heppner Gazette Times.

If Oregon is going to remain faithful to her future citizenship and maintain her place among the states in an educational way, she must get over that small way of dealing with her state's schools.

Better Civilization at Stake.

Dallas Itemizer.

Perpetuation of civilization depends on education. To secure education for the coming generations, there must be educated persons qualified to act as instructors. To guarantee this our institutions of higher education must be maintained.

Those Who Come and Go.

"I see by The Oregonian this morning that two men escaped death in the local train wreck Sunday because they were gallant enough to give their seats to a couple of women who had just boarded the train," remarked J. L. Talbot, a Des Moines insurance man, who was at the Multnomah yesterday. Unfortunately the two women were killed, due to a strange twist of fate. See the way I'm carrying around this decided limp in my left leg? It's a fact that I was traveling on an interurban out of St. Louis six years ago when I got up to give my seat to a woman with two youngsters in one of the rear cars. I went forward into the smoker just in time to get smashed up in a collision. The woman escaped and I carried around a badly broken leg for months. All of which proves you can't always tell."

Paul Weyrauch, manager of the Blalock Fruit company of Walla Walla, was a business visitor in Portland yesterday, staying at the Imperial. Mr. Weyrauch served in the war as colonel of the 147th field artillery, an organization of Walla Walla, Spokane and Yakima troops that fought for several months on the battlefront alongside Portland's own field artillery organization. Colonel Weyrauch does not draw the line at being a soldier and business man, however, and is frequently drafted to take part in civic activities at Walla Walla. He recently concluded a term as president of the chamber of commerce there and was chosen president of the Rotary club when a chapter of that organization was established at the garden city a few months ago.

Colonel Milton F. Davis, commandant of a military school at Cornwell-on-the-Hudson, is in Portland. He was summoned here by the illness of his sister, Miss Myrtle Davis, 138 East Sixty-eighth street. With her improvement, which is marked, Colonel Davis will return east in a few days. Mr. Davis was appointed to West Point from Oregon and served in the army many years, retiring as major to take charge of the school at Cornwall, which is a preparatory institution for West Point. During the recent war he was recalled to the service and commissioned as colonel. He was attached to the signal corps and had charge of all the aviation camps of the United States.

Those wanderers from La Grande, when they come to Portland, are walking advertisements for their town. J. H. Peare, who years ago organized the champion hose-cart team, is at the Imperial and is modestly asserting that the Grand Ronde valley is far superior to the Willamette valley, save in size. "The best part of the valley," explains Mr. Peare, "is what is known as Sand Ridge. About 30 years ago, when people bought land in the Sand Ridge section for $2.50 an acre, they were considered crazy. Now that land is worth from $100 to $150 an acre." Mr. Peare attended the training camp at Eugene, but before he could get into action the war was called off.

The mayor of Estacada looked as important as a new city hall when he swaggered into the lobby of the Imperial yesterday. He has some news and he had to tell it or bust. "I want to tell you something," began Ed Bartlett, the mayor. "About your candidacy for the legislature?" cautiously inquired a lobby lizard, preparing to make an escape. "Never mind my candidacy just now—I've something more important. I received a wire from my wife, who has been visiting my daughter in California, and—say—it's twins. Both girls." The mayor of Estacada, who has just been elected to the honorable position of grandfather, began humming: "Ain't It a Gr-rand an' Glorious Feeling?"

Four years ago he presided over the queerest political gathering ever held in the United States, for men and women were milling around, shouting, yelling, screaming until exhausted. He was chairman of the Bull Moose national convention and his name is Raymond Robins. And the Oregon delegation acted just like the other delegations and helped to raise pandemonium. Quite unruffled through it all was Mr. Robins and even when he made his speech he was unemotional. Mr. Robins arrived at the Imperial yesterday, for he has invaded Oregon to see if he can help carry it for Hiram W. Johnson.

Charles Gordon, William Bowden, D. H. Pallerson Jr. of the Independent Paper Stock company of San Francisco, arrived at the Benson yesterday on their way north. They are considering putting in a plant either in Oregon or Washington. With them is L. S. Rosener, also of San Francisco, consulting engineer.

D. C. England of West Timber discovered yesterday what hundreds of individuals have already learned, that accommodations in the hotels during the Shrine convention are unobtainable. Mr. England tried to dicker with the Perkins, but there was nothing doing. This hotel has had to refuse one bunch of 250 Shriners from a Michigan town.

Game wardens were thicker than game in Portland yesterday, the boys being gathered in from all parts of the state. Among those present was John Waldron, who looks after the game of Union and Wallowa counties. Formerly he was chief of police at La Grande and he was also a deputy sheriff in Union county.

Emulating the example of William Hohenzollern, Harry Hamilton of the Imperial has been sawing wood at Brightwood for the past week. Last year when Mr. Hamilton was at Brightwood he tried chopping until his ax struck a clothesline and the butt bounced back and beaned him cold.

R. H. Green, who is a manufacturer of gas tractors in Chicago, is registered at the Multnomah with Mrs. Green. Mr. Green predicts that the farmers of the nation will soon discard horses for tractors for the field work, and is ready to quote statistics showing the increasing demand for tractors.

Leaving the wholesaling of notions and novelties to his sons back in Cincinnati, O., Leopold Rosin is taking his wife and daughters on a pleasure trip along the Pacific coast. The party arrived at the Multnomah yesterday.

"One nice thing about Stevenson, Wash.," confessed Mrs. E. P. Ash, who is at the Perkins, "is that it is so near Portland. One can come to Portland, shop and return home all in a few hours."

Easter bonnets should not worry Mrs. Bunker, for her husband is a millinery manufacturer of New York. Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Bunker, who are on their honeymoon trip, are registered at the Benson.

Miss A. Jorgensen, a tourist from Denmark, arrived at the Perkins yesterday and after paying a formal visit to the local consul she headed for the Columbia highway.

C. C. Cushman is of sufficient importance to have a town named after him. Cushman is in Lane county and C. C. is registered with friend wife at the Perkins.

NO BURDEN ADDED TO PROPERTY

How Automobile Registration Fees Pay for Roads Without Tax Increase.

EUGENE, Or., May 10.—(To the Editor.)—I have read the article in The Oregonian to the effect that no one should hesitate to vote for the state road propositions as the automobiles through license fees will pay the bonds and interest. You instance a man who last year paid $3 license fee and this year pays $22.

Now I have a friend here in Eugene that had just that experience, but there was more which you did not mention. In addition to paying the $3 last year, his automobile went onto the tax roll and he had to pay as general taxes on it $22.92. This $22.92 was disposed of substantially as follows: $7 went to help defray the expense of running the Eugene municipal government, $5 to defraying the expense of running the Eugene schools, and $11 to defraying the general cost of running Lane county, including its contribution to the state government.

This year his payment of $22 goes substantially: 68 cents to pay costs of collection, $16 to state roads, and $5.34 to Lane county road funds. In other words, the automobile no longer contributes to the cost of city, school, county and state expenses. Who is to contribute the $22.92 that this automobile used to contribute to those necessary expenses? We have been looking for that fellow and despite your editorial, we still have fears that the old ordinary taxpayer is the man. We would like further assurance that he is not really involved.

Of course, we have got to finish the state roads, but why not give the fellow credit on whom the added cost falls? The automobiles seem to have slipped from under.

S. D. ALLEN.

The present automobile registration law was devised with intent to return to each county approximately the amount of which it was deprived by elimination of the general property tax. Approximately one-fourth of the new registration fees are returned to each county. The remainder is the amount which will be capitalized by issuance of bonds for construction of state highways.

It is true that each county is required to expend its one-fourth of the registration fees on road work, but it is to be assumed that this revenue will take the place of a general property tax levied for road purposes in that county and that the total general property levy will thus not need to be raised.

Multnomah county officials estimate that returned registration fees will more than off-set the sum lost by elimination of the ordinary tax on automobiles. In the instance cited by Mr. Allen the car that paid $22.92 in general taxes would, if the method of assessment in Lane county is the same as in Multnomah, have paid only $11.46 the next year, had the tax been retained, and about $8 in the following year. The point is that the greater number of automobiles are old models and have depreciated in value. A 1915 Dodge Bros. car, for example, paid about $4 taxes for 1919 but it pays $22 state registration fee, of which more than $5 will be returned to the county in lieu of taxes.

Furthermore, by the new system, every car contributes to the county in which it is owned, whereas in Multnomah and doubtless in other counties, about 10 per cent of the automobiles avoided taxation by removal elsewhere after the rolls had been made up. There is also a saving in cost of collection. Three deputies were required in Multnomah to locate automobile owners who were tax delinquent.

HANGING AS MEASURE OF SAFETY

At Least Those Executed Cannot Kill Again.

SALEM, Or., May 9.—(To the Editor.)—I have read several letters in The Oregonian against restoring capital punishment in Oregon. These letters without exception ignore the right of the victim and sympathize with the murderer. This mawkish sentiment eventually turns the murderer loose again.

There have been several murders since capital punishment was abolished where we have the murderer's own statement as proof that had he been facing the gallows he would not have committed the crime.

Quoting from the letter of O. E. Frank in The Oregonian: "The fact that a degenerate beast kills his victim doesn't mean that the state ought to soil its hands with his life's blood." Should it turn him loose to claim another victim as has been our experience in the past?

Capital punishment should be restored to prevent a repetition. If it does not prevent murder, it will at least limit each "degenerate beast" to one victim. U. F. NEIDERHISER.

Descent of Property.

OAK POINT, Wash., May 9.—(To the Editor.)—A man and his wife have lived together for many years and raised several children. By frugality and industry, all working together, the children and all, a little property is accumulated. Finally the wife and mother dies. Nothing is said about the distribution of the property, the children trusting the father. After a while the father concludes to marry again, when the right of the children to their mother's share is mentioned. The father consults an attorney and informs the children that the law of Oregon is that when the mother dies the property reverts to the father during his life and if the father dies the wife takes it all during her life. In the meantime what is to become of the children's right. Is this the law, and what is the wife's legal share?

INTERESTED.

If the property was in the father's name there was no estate to distribute upon the death of the mother. If the property was in the mother's name, the property all goes to the children except a life interest in the income from one-half the estate which goes to the father.

Number of Members of Congress.

EUGENE, Or., May 9.—(To the Editor.)—(1) What is the total number of senators in the senate at Washington, D. C., at the present session of congress?

(2) What is the total number of representatives?

(3) What is the regular date of adjournment of congress?

(4) Who are the senator and representative up for re-election from First congressional district?

A SUBSCRIBER.

(1) Senators, 96.

(2) Full membership of house is 435; there are two vacancies.

(3) Unless adjournment is agreed upon, the present session will end on December 1, when the second session will begin.

(4) W. C. Hawley, present representative, is the only candidate on the ballot in the primaries. Senators are elected by the state at large. Senator Chamberlain is up for re-election.

More Truth Than Poetry.

By James J. Montague.

CONSERVATION.

The Smiths, as a mode of conserving
their means,
Are dressing the family, the children and all
In five-dollar suits that are built of
blue jeans
And vow they'll continue the custom till fall.
"We've got to cut down," declares
Smith with a groan;
"The cost of existence is quite
beyond reach.
This season we'll need to conserve
every bone,
For theater tickets cost five dollars each."

The Joneses are saving on mutton
and beef;
They've found they can live on
short rations of meat.
Their butcher, they say, is a price-
boosting thief,
But nevertheless human beings
must eat.
"These prices are fearful," says Jones
with a sigh.
"The profiteer grafters are going
too far;
We must save our money, for gas
is so high,
And we've got a terrible hog of a
car."

The Browns have removed to a half-
portion flat;
They had to come down on the annual
rent;
With three to a room they are
crowded at that,
But still, they aver, they are
wholly content.
"It isn't as big as it might be," says
Brown,
"But we thought it was best to
live cheap for a spell.
We will need a big wad when we
move out of town
To spend the hot months in a high-
priced hotel."

The Robinsons' kids have been taken
from school—
They went to a fancy one somewhere
upstate—
For Robinson always has made it a
rule
To finish the year with a well-
balanced slate.
"It saves a few hundred," says Robinson pere,
"And this year I certainly cannot
get short.
I need all the coin I can possibly
spare,
For whisky is costing me thirty a
quart."

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The Fates Forbid!

If that gamblers' strike that has started in Mexico ever spreads to New York, what will become of Wall street?

• • •

It Won't Be Needed.

In the present situation making a law against a third term would be quite supererogatory.

• • •

The Upward Trend.

Campaign funds will have to be larger this year. Votes that once cost a dollar now cost five and ten.

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Toleration.

By Grace E. Hall.

We need it so! This silent strength
to bear
The nameless bruises dealt by passing men
Who have no thought, no patience
and no care
Except for what may hold a charm
for them;
Who rudely sneer and elbow through
the throng,
With crude contempt for finer,
higher things,
Who have not dreamed of nature's
glory-song,
Nor mystic music made by myriad
wings.

The little minds of earth! Their
stings are felt
Like those of petty insects that
annoy,
For like the buzzing creatures, they
have dealt
Their blows with little thrills of
actual joy;
We need it so! This silent strength
to heal
The stabs of petty meanness from
the small,
Who have enough of brain perhaps
to feel
The grosser of life's pleasures—that
is all.

Oh, give us toleration! Silent power
Within our souls to pass by with a
smile
The aggravations met each day and
hour,
And grow thereby in ways that are
worth while;
The little man displays his little brain
In silly capers, ravings and rash
vow,
While toleration, born of mastered
pain,
Glows like a halo round the big
man's brow.

In Other Days.

Twenty-Five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of May 11, 1895.

Chicago.—A story is current in women's temperance circles today that Miss Frances Willard, the famous temperance lecturer, will be led to the alter by an Englishman of wealth and position.

Work has at last been commenced on the new pipe line of the city waterworks.

Fancy creamery butter is being sold today at 12½ and 13 cents a pound.

The East Side Railway company has electrified its Mount Scott division.