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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 1907

## A PLEA FOR POLITICIANS.

The culminating grace of the preacher is charity. It is comparatively a facile achievement for a minister to stand in his pulpit and denounce Mr. Rockefeller, Chancellor Day, Mr. Harriman o some other pirate. It is not difficult to the vials of righteous wrath upon the heads of the politicians. And by doing so one may cheaply gain the applause of the unthinking vulgar; but will be also add stars to his crown? Is it conceivable that Mr. Harriman will ever be won from his wicked ways by denunciation, however scorching? not bitter words tend rather to confirm him in the practice of wholesale pilfering? Will not pulpit execorlation drive stead of alluring him heavenward? There can be little doubt that the

language habitually hurled from the pulpit at millionaires drives many of them from the salutary consolations of the Sabbath sermon to seek sinful refreshment at baseball games, to rush wildly over the country in their auto obiles and, maddened by the stings of a guilty conscience, to resort to the deiusive soluce of the intoxicating bowl. Our preachers, on the one hand, furiexhort us to extirpate the use of alcoholic beverages, while on the other by their virulent attacks upon the sins rows in champagne. Is this consistent? But it is the unfortunate attitude of the pulpit toward our politicians that especially interests us just now. The lot of these wretched men is most pitiable. When a preacher finds his congregation dropping off to somnolency, all he has to do to make them prick up their ears is to sail into the politicians. When he can think of no other subject likely to rival bridge whist in attractiveness to the elect he announces that he will, next Sabbath evening, lay the lash to the hide of the City Council or scalp the Prosecuting Attorney, or unvell the rottenness of the ward boss. All this is deplorable.

Our ministers forget that the politi-cian is not a free moral agent. These poor creatures have to do as they are When their masters say to one of them "Come," he cometh; and when they say unto him "Go," he goeth. are like automatons moved by springs or like soldiers in the regular They must obey or they suffer penalties quite as severe as the loss of on record of City Councilmen who have in the matter of voting franchises; and what happened? Why, they lost their passes, and we all know what a disgracious figure a Councilman cuts with out his passes. A fox without a tail elephant without his trunk, a mule fins, are all dignified individuals be- reports of accidents to the Interstate side a Councilman without his passes. He wanders desolate and ashamed of the serious collisions on American through the streets, conscious that railroads have been due to the negli-every urchin is pointing at him and gence of trainmen and enginemen." An whispering "There goes the guy what had his pass took away." On the street ment that will cause the prosecution car he is obliged openly to produce an ignominious nickel and hand it over to ployes who are responsible for the the conductor like a common citizen. Think of his shame and grief under the max be maintained. Complaint is humiliation. When he meets the Dismade that public sympathy is usually humiliation. When he meets the Dismade that public sympathy is usually penser of Passes on the highway that with the culprit while censure is visited mighty potentate blasts him with a scornful eye, as if to say, "Aha! Behold aid in relieving the situation the Age Council meetings he must endure the give to the public the facts ascertained jeers of his colleagues like the bad boy by them in investigations of accidents who has been kept in at recess. He and also make known the negligence of suffers all the mental agony of the wicked little pig who had no roast beef while all the other nine were devouring their ample slices.

If he strives to set a noble example of public virtue by denying some tidbit of public property to the corporations, everybody sneers and says, "He is mad because he didn't get a pass." If he pours out a flood of burning eloquence against the pirates at election time, his jeering rivals nullify it all by whisper-"He didn't get a pass this year." it is awful. And to make matters worse, to add to his sorrow the crown of sorrow, as the poet says, when he

preacher denounces him as a grafter. Let us not abuse the politician. Let us a man under authority who must obey diatribes at the patient mule because he strains at the traces? Shall we denounce the ox because he knoweth his owner, or the ass because he knoweth his master's crib? Nay, rather should our eyes overflow with gracious drops for his hard lot. The politician is an

object of compassion, not of wrath.
We urge upon our pulpit prators to take these few words of kindly counsel In the sweet language of the second reader they should remember to 'Speak gently to the erring politicians, .78 let no harsh words be heard. They be driven like a dray horse under an clans is not only uncharitable, it is positively unscriptural, "Servants, obe your masters," says Paul. The politiand he does his best to obey his master How fearfully wrong, then, for th preacher, whose true mission it is to applaud those who follow the precepts of the inspired word, to censure and vilify him.

### DOES IT HELP?

The demand in business for men with ever was before and it increases all the Engineers, upon the average make more money than lawyers and doctors. Their social position is quite as desirable and their freedom of action young man who thinks of educating himself has, therefore, to answer the question whether he will be more bene fited by classical or technical training We mean, benefited in a practical sense. Nobody denies the worth of classical education as an ornament of

Has it any other value? Can a poor young man afford to learn Latin? The New York Evening Post believes that lassical training imparts to the mind a certain aptitude and vigor which may afterward be applied in any direction with good practical results, and it may 10 K street.

Salt Lake—Moon Book & Stationary Co.; often be true. But one has to remember that there is a force in some kinds of education which unfits a man for ontact with realities. It dulls his enthusiasm, blunts his ambition and paralyzes his energies. Tihs is what some people call the "Harvard disease." It sends the youth out into the world a stranger, an alien. He looks superciliously upon the common tasks of man-kind and despises the ordinary ends of mbitton Not only does he lack the skill to accomplish practical work, but he thinks such skill beneath him. He scorns to acquire it. Education of this sort is a distinct misfortune to any man. If the old classical course give it, then the young man who has his way to make should beware of the What is the teaching of uni-

versal experience upon this point' One thing is certain. A technical training does fit a youth to do a man's work and earn a man's wages. Classical training may not unfit him, but loes it always help?

# A CHIME FROM TRINITY.

April number of "Trinity " contains some interesting Chimes" strictures upon Mrs. Eddy's philosophy and creed. They are chiefly interest-ing because they contain an assault, very thinly veiled, upon the inerrancy and creed. of the scriptures and also upon the creed which is professed in Trinity Church. Says The Chimes, "Her no-tion that man was created a perfect being denies historical experience. And the editor goes on to state that history, biology and all the other sciences for her resources in refute it, adding finally that "A normal and financial acumen.

mind cannot accept such a proposition, This is astonishing. The belief that made perfect, an was originally he was created in the image of the Al mighty, is maintained everywhere throughout the Bible. If a normal mind canno; accept it, then no mind in hristendom was normal until the midfle of the nineteenth century, for it was believed always. In holding to the doc trine Mrs. Eddy holds to the orthodox creed of Christianity.

Moreover, if biology contradicts the doctrine of man's original perfection, how does it stand toward the doctrine of the Virgin birth? We apprehend that the organ of a denomination which has so recently expelled Dr. Crapsey for denying the Virgin birth makes a rather parlous venture when it appeals to biology. If biology is to decide one question of theology, why not another?
"A perfect mind," says The Chimes, 'cannot make mistakes or errors." We submit that the editor of our plous conemporary does not know anything about what a perfect mind would would not do. He never saw one. He has no experience of its operations, un less gained from introspection, "What is the use of a perfection," he asks, which sins and suffers and errs?" Well, Jesus was perfect, and he certain ly suffered. Paul was perfect in teach ing, according to the creed of Chimes, and he erred. At least The Chimes thinks he did; for Paul says that in Adam we all fell; while the editr of The Chimes declares that we did nothing of the sort.

WHERE LIES THE BLAME. In a recent editorial in the Rallway respectable compared to him. An Age the assertion is made that "recently published statistics show that in the five years that the railroads have made Commerce Commission, over 70 per cent appeal is then made for a public sentiand punishment of the railway em cidents, in order that proper discipline upon the railroad comapny. At suggests that railroad managers might employes whose carelessness does not result disastrously.

bad showing for the employe and inferentially a good showing for the railroad But it is worth while to managers. give the matter a second thought. the first place we are to remember that the statistics, showing that 70 per cent of the serious collisions are due to the of the serious collisions are due to the is indispensable to all plants and that negligence of trainmen, are compiled the supply in the air is superabundant. from reports made by the railroads This relates only to collisions and not to all accidents. The railroad managers, who of course would like to escape responsibility, make the reports.

men, or even by disinterested investigators, we might have an altogether dif Let us remember that he is ferent compilation of statistics. An engineer who sleeps, or becomes carethe voice of his master. Shall we hurl less at his post, is presumably responsi-diatribes at the patient mule because ble for any accident that happens; but in the five years covered by the reports. how many of the accidents so occurring have been due to the fact that engi-neers were worked too many hours at a stretch or too many hours in a week? It is quite likely true that in case accident public sympathy is with the trainmen. In a large proportion of cases of serious collision the trainmen go to the hospital or the cemetery while the rallroad managers continue to wine and dine in comfort. could the public bestow its sympathy in have enough they must endure, without such a case? The railroad managers an unkind word." Is it not enough to select the employes, and must be held accountable for their efficien unrelenting lash without being called trainment are accountable to the mana-bad names besides? Abuse of politi-Censure will continue to fall in the future where it has in the past

THE SHAME OF BUSSIA.

The famine that has so long prevailed ver large districts of Russia lifts its gaunt hands in the face of the so-called civilization of the mightlest empire on the face of the carth with mute en-treaty and drops them from sheer exhaustion-unrelleved. Some funds have been appropriated by the government it is true, toward the pressing needs of these wretched millions, but the relief furnished thus far is not a drop in the ocean of their dire necessities. sillions of his loyal subjects keeping life in their naked, emaciated, unhoused odies upon a vile concection known as 'hunger food'-food that hogs on an American farm would refuse-the Great White Tsar lives in imperial splendor; his relatives, to distant kin, draw large sums in excess of any reasonable requirement, even of munificence, fron the public funds, and from rentals pinched from meagerly supplied tollers while his immediate family, a large one revels in every luxury that ingenuity

can devise or money procure.

The shame of Russia is advertised to shuddering world by every smothered wall of hunger, every weak whimper of naked, unhoused humanity that reaches the ears of the pitiful; every cry for

succor that reaches the nations. A monarch and an imperial family rolling in wealth, and 20,000,000 of sublects driven to the direct extremity keep a semblance of life in their wasted odies! This is the indictment of civilization against Russia-an indictmen rought in the name of humanity and supported by economic considerations that, were the plea of humanity to fail should be sufficient to cause a govern-ment, which is a military despotism supported by soldiers under arms, to provide against this wholesale waste of human life,

A ruler with a conscience, himself imnensely wealthy, should be ashamed to have the poverty, the destitution and the misery of his people spread upon the records of the world. It is as if a man who boasts the possession numerous family were to surround himself with luxury and call upon others to supply the needs of his own. It would not be necessary for the rulers and the aristocrats of this vast empire to impoverish themselves in order to relieve the sufferings of these naked and starv ing hosts. Relatively a little from vast abundance, systematically distributed, would supply the pressing needs of these people, and give them eed for their fields, as an assurance of self-help a few months hence. This is humane, this is economic, this is na tional honor and national safety. To let this famine go on is cruel, unec mic and dishonoring, unless indeed Russia is ready to stand boldly before the world and proclaim that she has too many people and an empire too large her resources in executive ability

# NITROGEN.

Most of us when we went to school used to admire with many reservations the wisdom which the Creator manifested in mixing the earth's atmos the superabundant four-fifths of useless nitrogen seemed to point to an econe unnecessary and not entirely reditable. The nitrogen, our teacher told us, was used to dilute the too ardent oxygen. Now we all know that it has other uses. We know that if we could not breathe without oxygen, without ultrogen we could not eat; and since most of us would rather stint the lungs than the stomach, we behold the genersity as well as the wisdom of the Almighty demonstrated by the abundance of the chill, intractable nitrogen which some scientists have called azote or the lifeless gas. It is really the life giving gas.

Without nitrogen we should have no wheat. A bushel of our favorite cereal contains some four pounds of the gas in solid form while the average wheat op of the United States extracts about 1,237,000 tons of nitrogen from the soil Unless it is restored in some way the fertility of the land dithe human race sees the wolf staring vide-eyed through the door. That the nitrogen is by no means all returned to the land we may learn from the case of France where agriculture is much more scientific and less wasteful than it is We quote from an interesting article in The Independent by James Mackaye: The French "remove an about 600,000 tons of nitrogen from the soil, of which only about 358. ing an annual deficit of more than 240. 600 tons. By so much is the soil of France, one of the best tilled countries. in the world, growing poorer every year.

What then of our own? Nitrogen in solid form, suitable for wheat to utilize, is very expensive. One of the best forms of it is that of sodium nitrate, or saltpeter, which comes from This costs \$275 per ton, a rate which makes the nitrogen in a bushel of wheat come to 51 cents. Under these conditions wheat would be too exper tariff or an oil field to furnish his table. Moreover the supply of Child saltpeter is extremely limited. Were it applied to grow wheat the deposits would be exhausted in a few years, Thus, as Mr. Cleveland would put it, a endition confronts us. We must either All of which makes on its face a very stop eating wheat or else find some way to draw upon the atmosphere for nitro gen. The condition becomes all the more depressing when we recollect that who have violated the laws of the wheat is not the only food material state, who have been convicted and which must have nitrogen to grow. All plants require it. Seeing that nitroger one would suppose that leaves or roots or bark or some other plant organ would have the capacity to extract it; but they have not. Legumine

services of a bacterium which lives in bercles on their roots, but to most magazines over a reported invention ply these nitrogen accumulating bacteria without limit. It was asserted of his own record.

With refreshing confidence that the The parole system seems to be as sandiest land with their aid would blossom, not like the rose, but like the clover field, and that the problem of the human food supply need thenceforth trouble nobody any more. We could feed the metropolis from old gravel plts judgment and conscientiousness of the if we wished. This astonishing invention has unfortunately proved as disappointing in practice as it was beautiful in theory. The clover bacterium does accumulate nitrogen from the air, albeit slowly, and is an important recourse for fertilizing wornout land; but it does not work fast enough; the depletion of fertility would outstrip its efforts even if every tiller of the soil racticed clover farming, which many of them do not.

The great desideratum is some method of solidifying nitrogen from the air in a form which vegetation can use and which is not too expensive. Mr. Mac-Kaye mentions several methods, mostly tentative and all but one inordinately expensive. With the money which this country spends on its department of agriculture and the corps of "scientists employed in the department of agriculthe agricultural colleges, one might have expected that the one suc-cessful method of forming organic nitrogen from the air would be an American invention. But it is not. Ameri-ca shines in many things brighter than The invention with such glory as it implies belongs to effete Europe, to Norway in fact, At Notodden in that country they pass plain air through an electric arc which is kept sweeping in a circle by the attraction of This applies the arc to magnet. large quantities of air in a short time. The effect is to unite the passing oxyand nitrogen into a compound th may be secured in water and utilized to fertilize the soil. The expense per ton of fixed nitrogen is only 28 cents, or a little more than half the ost of Chili saltpeter. Thus the assurance of our food supply seems well under way. Scientists expect to make the process still cheaper and more effective. One can not help hoping that our Department of Agriculture may some time be moved to direct a certain fraction of its energies from the seed folly and the manufacture of crop reports which nobody relies on to this humdrum but useful investigation.

## AIDING CRIMINALS TO REFORM.

The problem of reformation of the riminal is one so far from solution that we can scarcely be said to have made any progress worthy of partic We have improved the ular mention. sanitary conditions of our prisons, have given the convicts better food, more light, less restraint and more comfort able quarters. A number of states have abolished capital punishment reform schools for boys have been established in nearly every state in the Union, and every part of the country. Yet mur-ders and robberies, criminal assaults upon women, trainwrecking, election frauds, embezzlement and all manner of crimes are apparently as frequent as at any previous time in our history Neither religion nor the public school seems to have changed conditions for the better, for crimes are committed today by church people as frequently as ever, and in recent years we have been discovering that men of education and high business standing are implicated in a species of refined robber; none the less criminal because refined.

To "give the criminal a chance" is the policy coming into favor in most o the states, with the hope that he will appreciate the kindly feeling manifested toward him by his fellow-men; but it is uncertain whether that course will be effective in its purpose. Yet it is the prevailing sentiment of the time. and will have its trial in practical experience in handling criminals. Here in Oregon the drift toward greater leniency has been very pronounced. A few years ago the Oregon prison estab lished the system of giving credits for good conduct, thus enabling a prisoner to shorten his length of service by obeying the rules of the institution and giving no trouble to his keepers. A de-crease of 50 per cent in the time to be erved is allowed for all time spent at labor, thereby encouraging industry It is quite likely that the man who a criminal by choice will be very little changed in character by the good con-duct he maintains in order to shorten his term of imprisonment. If his in carceration is not effective in restraining him from future violations of law is not likely that shortening the term a few days will be recognized by him as an act of kindness requiring from him good conduct in the future as an expression of gratitude. He is good for the time being because he is practically paid for being good.

Recently two changes in the policy of prison management have been inaugurated in this state with a view to "giving the criminal a chance," One of these is the discontinuance of the practice of sending out to peace officers the names and photographs of convicts about to be discharged from the tentlary. Another is the practical application of the parole system, by which men are released from confinement upon the condition of good behavior and useful industry. The first change was made because ex-convicts com plained that as soon as they were re leased they were hounded by peace of flors and often arrested upon suspicion when there were no facts or circum stances warranting their apprehension Police officers, having the names and pictures of men recently discharged, of being able to connect them with a crime committed soon after their re lease. This practice, the convicts de clared, made it useless for them to try to lead honest lives, for they were sub jected to arrest without cause. Gov ernor Chamberlain ordered that no nore pictures be given out unless special reasons existed therefor. nains to be seen whether this will result in aiding criminals to reform or whether it will merely serve to aid them in returning to avenues of crime

Establishment of the parole system is rompted by the highest purposes, and sentenced therefor, and who can convince the Governor that they desire to lead honest lives in the future, may secure release upon condition that they ngage in honorable occupations. They oust make regular reports to the prison authorities as to their residence and oc-

agreement that, if the conditions be plants even this indirect resource is and returned to the prison to serve ou Man must provide them with | the unexpired portion of his term pitrogen or they must go without. Not | further aid him in being honest, the auong ago great excitement arose in the indicates over a reported invention released, so that each man turned out winch was said to enable us to multi- of the prison may feel that he will be

rted of his own record.
the The parole system seems to be a practical as any that could be devised for the purpose of encouraging crimi nals to reform and aiding the ing so. Its success must, in the natur of things, depend largely upon the officers who are charged with the duty of carrying the parole law into effect An officer with a poor understanding of human nature would be easily imposed upon. In the hands of a dishe test official the parole system would offer end less opportunities for injustice and Should the criminal classes once learn that incompetent or dishor ficers had charge of the administration of the parole system, the law would become at once a promoter of crime rather than a deterrent. The system is right, however, in its plan, and, if carefully applied in practice, should show results satisfactory to those who doers. If we have not witnessed as great results as we would wish from past methods of handling the criminal lasses, we must be all the more cage to devise better and more effective sys tems. Oregon is awake to the need o progress in reformatory efforts, and is a laggard in adopting modern ideas. Whether modern ideas will prov more satisfactory than those that have gone before, experience alone can di

The Salem Journal is unable to se any difference between the case of grapher Hill, who sold a copy of the Harriman letter, and the case of Robertson and the department stenog raphers who gave testimony against Mitchell, Hermann, and others. there is a vast difference. Hill was employed in a private capacity and th letter he wrote was private in its na-The public had nothing whatever ture: to do with it and had no right to know its contents unless either the writer or the recipient saw fit to give it out. The stenographers who gave testimony in the land fraud trials were public em ployes, paid by the Government for their work and the matters to which they testified were of a public nature. approached newspapers with offers to sell the letter he had in his possession The government stenographers gave up their information when they were approached by Government officers whos duty it was to gather information re garding the conduct of public officials Hill was guilty of a breach of trust to his employer. The Government sten ographers have fulfilled their duty to their employers, the people of the Unit ed States. There is the difference.

The Pendleton Tribune says that small caliber for the position United States Senator, which it is said he has in mind. Brother Geer should be careful in his choice of lan-guage, for an expression like that has a back-action that may hurt. It would be unkind, after the Tribune's comment to remark that Dr. Withycombe de-feated Geer in the primaries last Spring and then Chamberlain defeated Withy ombe at the polls. The records are

Especial timeliness attaches to an ar ticle on community advertising by Tom Richardson, published on page 9 of the magazine section of this paper. It is in substance an address delivered be fore Tacoma's chief commercial organization, but it applies to every live Exemplifying on the Pacific Coast. the most effective agency for promotio urged by Mr. Richardson is the Tour Oregonian to be issued Monday, April

The Oklahoma constitution, recently drafted by a constitutional convention contains 100,000 words. What that cans will be readily understood when said that the United States Cor stitution contains but 6000. The people of Oklahoma have put into their constitution many limitations that most states provide by statute, but the people of the new state are apparently

The fame of the bachelor tax ordinance, passed by the Fort Dodge, Iowa, City Council as a joke, has spread ever to Germany and a measure has been passed by the lower house of the Hes sian Parliament which the dispatches inform us is framed according to the "Iowa idea." There is one thing certain—that if the bachelors flee from Germany they will not move to Iowa.

The Ohio State Fair has been denied a special reduced rate by the railroads cause the Legislature passed a 2-cent fare law. Now Iowa is wondering treatment. Out here in Oregon we have no 2-cent rate so it may be assumed that the Southern Pacific will make the usual excursion reductions.

Hon, Jim Foley, Jacksonian stalwart of the local Democracy, is reported as defining Dr. Lane's political platform as "To hell with us!" If the Hon. Jim speaks for his party-and for whom else does he speak?-further scriptural admonitions from the leaders thereof are superfluous.

The Klamath Falls Republican says that most of the anti-Roosevelt politicians and corporations are wearing wooden hats for fear they will be next to feel the crack of the big stick. Well, isn't a wooden hat proper on a block-

It is probably fortunate for Delmas

that he has an opportunity to quit the Thaw case. The American people

credit him with winning a victory and he might lose his reputation if he tried The Jennings murder case is to be tried again. The killing took place so long ago that most people have forgot-ten all about it, but probably most of

On April 16 the Circuit Court in Des Moines, Iowa, adjourned because the courthouse could not be kept warm. O, come West.

the witnesses can be found.

The Governor of Nebraska vetoed an \$85,000 normal school bill. We thought normal school troubles were all our

of acrow, as the poet says, when he cape responsibility, make the reports, such as the clovers, peas and beans, can laws of the state or ordinances of a another is no indication that he lives goes to the sanctuary for comfort the lif the reports were made by the train-

# SYMPOSIUM OF CURRENT STATE TOPICS

Useless Formality in Administration of an Oath-Architects and State Buildings - How Wildcat Timber Locators Swindle the Unsophisticated-Salem's Mighty Dog Trouble-Evils of Carry ing Concealed Weapons-Some Cows and Some Men-Legislators Who Object to Criticism.

often occurred to T. G. Halley, now of It is a waste of time, a useless formality, proceeding which is not essential to the punishment of false testimony. Upon such reasons Judge Hailey bases his belief that the formality of an oath should be dispensed with, aside from the Scripural injunction to "swear not at all, neither by Heaven, for it is God's throne, or by the carth, for it is his footstool; but let your communication be, yea, yea nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil." Judge Halley would have witnesses called as they are now, and placed upon the stand, without swearing or affirming. He would have them testify in answer to questions and would provide severe punishment for the witness who should testify falsely, dishment would be based upon the false testimony and not upon the violation of an oath, Under the present procedure jurors are sometimes sworn be fore they are questioned as to their qualifications, and are sworn again before the trial begins. The Court Bailiff is sworn every time he takes charge of a fury, and as this occurs many times during a term of court, an officer takes many oaths to do his duty when one at nost would do as well. But Judge Hailey thinks none at all would do as well, for the law could make it the duty of witness to tell the truth, the whole Truth and nothing but the truth, the duty of a jury to find a verdict according to the aw and the evidence, and the duty of a Court Bailiff to guard the jury from in terference, and violation of such duties ould be made a crime just as serious as iolation of an oath. Instead of swear ing a man to an affidavit, Judge Hatley would have it merely signed in the pres nce of an attesting officer, which is, in fact, the general practice, though the law requires that an oath be administered. That the solemnity of an oath is ineffectual to prevent false testimony, is common knowledge among people familiar with court proceedings. The land-fraud trials in this state show how little regard men and women have for the oath ad-ministered to them by a notary public when they make affidavit in the form rejuired by law. Because it is evident that the oath serves no useful purpose and is a waste of time, Judge Hailey calls i foolishness and wants it abolished.

H ERETOFORE it has been the pracan architect to draw plans for the public building and to oversee the work of construction. The architect is paid either a stipulated sum or a percentage upof the cost of the building. It is under stood that Governor Chamberlain will favor a new method when the Board gets ready to adopt plans for the buildings for the new institution for the feeble minded. The Governor's scheme is not only to call for competitive bids for construction work, but to ask for competitive plans and specifications. All architects will be invited to submit plans, and the whose ideas are the best will be awarded struction. This method may be slightly more expensive than that of hiring an architect before his plans are known for the Board will probably find it neces sary to offer extra inducements to counterbalance the certainty that some of the architects will get no pay for their work in drawing plans. But the Governor s anxious that in starting the new inhis advocacy of the competitive idea. chased soon, and then the Board will be ready to proceed.

the choice of dog-owners up in Salem For many months, years, in fact, Salein papers have been telling of the efforts of the City Council to control the dog nuisance. Owners of lawns and flower beds rise with a mighty protest and demand that a stringent dog ordinance be passed. The Council accedes to the demand, imposes a heavy tax and pays an officer to round up the untagged dogs. A wail from the dog-owners, lawauit, suspension of the dog ordinance and finally repeal of the obnoxlous law, follow in due order, and soon the owners of lawns and flower beds have their inning again. But some one seems to have tired of that sort of procedure, for there has been a whole sale poisoning of dogs recently, and all efforts to discover the guilty persons have been fruitless. Unfortunately, the poison does not always kill off the dogs that ought to be killed, but if the process should be long continued there will be no need for a dog ordinance of any kind in the Capital City,

SHIPPING beef from Portland to Coos Bay is one of the incidents of Oregon commerce that has created comment, particularly because the Coos Bay country is a great stock re gion. But this is no more remarkable than that beef should be shipped from Portland to Willamette Valley towns. or that Valley farmers should be buy having sold out and barley crops last Fall. Just such transactions are takare no more surprising than that Portland creamery butter should be shipped by rail and stage to the stock ranches of Interior Oregon. Coos Bay finds it cheaper to import beef grown in East-ern Oregon, and, on the other hand, Central Oregon finds it cheaper to import butter than to make it. That Willamette Valley farmers should be buy-ing grain to feed their stock can be explained only by assuming that they must have raised too little or sold too much immediately after harvest. Such transactions leave no room for doubt that the farmer pays the freight on the grain from the Valley, to Portland and from Portland back up the Valley again.

WHEREVER grass grows on lawns there the dendefion flourishes. whether in Oregon or elsewhere. In this state an din nearly every other state ef-forts are being made to find some way to exterminate the pests, or at least to hold them in check, but they seem to thrive on antagonism. Digging them out seems I to make two dandellons grow where only

HAT the system of administering ap one grew before, and surface applications oath to a witness, a juror or a intended to kill the plants act as fertiliz-court official is foolishness, has or arather than exterminators. How to get rid of the dandellon is, therefore, as per-Portland but formerly of the Supreme tinent a question as ever. Of course Bench, and it is his intention to advocate every man has his theories and most men discontinuance of a practice which, in are as ready to suggest a remedy for dan is opinion, has nothing to commend it. delions as for a cold. One of the newest suggestions comes from a men who de-clares that frequent mowing is what gives the dandelions a chance and results in their multiplication. Mowing checks the grass more than it does the deadelion. This authority asserts that if lawns were left a season or two without mowing, the dendellons would nearly all die out and that this is shown by the fact that hay meadows are not overrun with this enemy of the city lawn. The less mowing, paricularly in the early part of the Summer, the less trouble from dandelions, is the rule this theorist advances.

O PPORTUNITY is a word that catches the eye of the average citizen and often serves as a hypnotizing agency. The first chance or the last chance always serves as a hypnotizing agency. The first chance or the last chance always offers an opportunity which, if permitted to pass, will never be presented again, so the over-anxious frequently act blindly in grasping what looks like a good investment. Efforts to get hold of timber lands afford many Illustrations of the power of this first chance or last-chance idea, and the wildcatters of the woods" have made the most of it. When an Indian reser vation or a forest reserve is thrown open to settlement there is a great rush for claims, and men grab blindly for the first chance. Timber locators, representing that there are 'only two or three claims left," appeal to the Easy Marks and get a fee of \$100 to \$150 for ocating a man on land that is practically worthless. "They take their vicim to a thickly wooded piece of property," says a Baker City paper, "snow him the fortune to be had by locating spon that spot, and then give him the numbers of a vacant claim. Alas for the purchaser when he proves up on his claim, for he finds that it is located far away from the timber shown him, which has probably been taken up for years. Numerous cases of the kind have been reported here recently, and it is rumored that these confidence men of the forest are to be prosecuted."

SEVERAL shooting scrapes in Eastern Oregon recently have led to agitation for a campaign against the evil of carrying concealed weapons. Such a warfare has been started in several Eastern cities where the police round up all questionable characters and bring them into court and have them heavily fixed if weapons are found upon their persons. One problem has been presented in many such caseswhat to do with the revolver after the de-fendant has been discharged. So far as the law is concerned, the gullty person is So far az entitled to a return of the weapon. If the law were changed so as to declare the weapon forfeited, the state or city would soon have a good-sized arsenal of revolvers or would have to sell the implements of destruction for future use

N dairying circles considerable interest has been aroused in the records of a Forest Grove farmer, whose six cows last ear yielded over 42,000 pounds of milk which he sold to the condensing factor; for \$592.80. This was nearly \$100 per cow. The farmer who has this record is H. G. King. The Forest Grove Times save this is a "fair sample of what can be done here," but many people will be inclined to think that it is probably a fair sample of what can be done by some men with There is a difference in mer some cows. There is a difference in men and also in cows. However, the record is stitution the best plans be secured, hence good enough to encourage dairymen to

THAT some members of the Legislature do not like to have their actions in hat body criticised is evident from some disclosures the Grant's Pass Observer i REGULATION or extermination seems to be the alternative presented for making concerning its advertising and circulation business. The Observer re marks that when he was a candidate for the Legislature L. L. Jewell was an advertiser in that paper and also a subscriber. Candid criticism, so the editor thinks, was the cause for discontinuance of both his advertising and his subscription, but this "terrible financial catastrophe" will not stay the pen of free discussion of "a condition of affairs which calls for vigorous criticism from all state newspapers that are not toads or imbeciles." The Observer evidently entertains the same view of the freedom of the press as that indi-cated by the Pacific Outlook, which sets forth in verse the opinion of many people upon the subject of how to run a newspaper:

When a man goes astray

Keep it out.

When the criffice roust a play

Keep it out.

When two men in anger clash;

When a merchant goes to smarh;

When the cashier steals the cash—

Keep it out.

When they quarrel in the church
Keep it out.
When the teacher wields the birch
Keep it out.
When nine women fair to see
Whisper something over tea.
Print it: Goodness gracious met
"Keep it out."

When two statesmen make a deal
Keep it out.
When shother tries to steal
Rober it out.
Stories thin and stories tall;
Good and but and big and small—
Anything that's news at all—
Hear 'em shout:
"Reep it out."

Sonnet to John D. M. A. Maithews in National Stereotypers'
Journal.
Who owns the pipes down in the ground
That carry oil the country 'round
From Boston, Mass., to Puget Sound?
John D.

Who owns New Jersey, New York Bay, And No. Twenty-six Broadway? Who owns the air we broathe each day? John D.

Who owns the great old Empire State The P. R. R., the Nickel Plate. The Santa Fe, the Golden Gate? John D.

Who owns the Western Union, who Owns all the ships that sail the blue? Who owns, b'gosh, e'en me and you? John D.

Who teaches how in Cleveland, O., Each Sabbath morn to save your dough (It all goes back to him, you know)? John D.

Who put the coal down in the ground—And then got men to dig around
Till Hazelton, Ph., was found?
John D.

Who's going to excommunicate
Missouri as a sovereign state
Because her Folk don't hesitate?
John D. Who owns the Senators that we Sond down to Washington, D. C. To make the laws for us (oh! gee)?

John D.

In fact, who is it, lank and tall, Who has us at his beck and call. That owns the carth, and owns it all? John D.