The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, MAY 31, 1908.

SOME THINGS ABOUT OREGON.

It was natural and necessary that Western Oregon should have been the first part of the Oregon country to attract settlers. The Willamette Valley was a paradise for pioneers. Nature had endowed it with every possible attraction. Moreover, through the rivers it was accessible from the sea. The first settlers were agriculturists, and the Valley of Willamette opened to them finer opportunities than elsewhere in the region of Oregon. California was still Mexican territory. The Puget Sound country, though accessible from the sea, was not accessible from the land, and the pioneers, making their way across the continent, were unable to reach it. The early immigrants could not remain in the interior region, in the upper valley of the Columbia, for communication with the sea was necessary, and the Indians of the interior were more inclined to hostility. The immigrants therefore spread over the Willamette and other valleys of Western Oregon, and later passed into the Puget Sound country from the Columbia, by way of the Cowlitz. Expulsion of the missionaries from the upper valley of the Columbia by hostile Indians left that great region without settlement for many years; till finally discoveries of gold took a white population there and slowly gave it permanent establishment. Military posts protected the people, and after the railroad came the population grew rapidly and towns and cities appeared. Extension of railroads across the mountains to Puget Sound led to quick and enormous development of the country about that great estuary, and to creation of ports of commerce there. But Western Oregon, the seat of the original settlement, has made slow progress. Portland is its one large town. Development of the coast region of Oregon has lagged from want of roads and railroads, and for the like reason the ports of the coast region have been neglected. Progress indeed all the time has been made by Western Oregon, but it has been slower than might have been supposed; while Eastern Oregon yet contains an immense region that scarcely has been more than visited by explorers, or at best partly occupied by herdsmen.

There is a difference between Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington, much in favor of the latter. The elevation of Eastern Washington is much less; it is better watered; the Columbia River traverses the whole breadth of it, and with its tributaries has cut down the general level of the country below that of Eastern Oregon. Again, the great railroad systems, terminating at Puget Sound, have covered Eastern Washington with a network of lines and branches; while in Eastern Oregon there has been no railroad to compare with it. These facts explain why Eastern Oregon has fallen in its development far behind Eastern Washington. In Western Washington there is little agriculture compared with that of Western Oregon, but exploitation of the resources of timber and coal have been much greater; and Puget Sound has the bulk of the Alaskan trade. By the census of 1900 the population of Oregon was 413,536; that of Washington 518,103. The difference then in favor of Washington was 104,567. It will probably exceed 200,000 by 1910. Washington first appeared in the census of 1860, with a population of 11,594. Oregon, which had become a state in 1859, had, in 1860, 52,465. Washington first passed Oregon in 1890; her population then was 349,390, while that of Oregon was 313,767.

From 1870 to 1880 the growth of population in Oregon was 93,865; from 1880 to 1890, 138,999; from 1890 to 1900, 99,769. The increase during the present decade may be estimated conservatively at 200,000. It would be more if activity in railroad construction should be renewed within a year. Settlers will not go into isolated parts without the railroad or prospect of it. Our coast counties, which have resources for support of half a million people, are yet almost unoccupied; and though Eastern Oregon contains much land yet classed as desert, great tracts will surely be reclaimed, as soon as possibility of transportation shall make it worth while to do it. Formerly, development preceded the railroad. But that day is past. Few now will live in places remote from the movements of life and business.

The timber of Oregon is still almost untouched, and within a few years will become the basis of an immense activity; while large part of the timber of Washington is gone already. Oregon, therefore, has an industry coming which in Washington within a few years will be practically exhausted. There is a probability that within a period not exceeding twenty-five years the population of Oregon may again exceed that of Washington; since, relatively, in this state so little has been done upon the resources which Nature has offered to industry and enterprise.

M'KINLEY'S "BURIED POLICIES."

In the course of an editorial eulogy of Mark Hanna, the New York Sun speaks of Roosevelt as "the heir of the man, early and long distrusted by Mr. Hanna, who undid Mr. Hanna's work; who in the teeth of his most solemn vows let McKinley's policies be buried in McKinley's grave."

And what were McKinley's policies? Whatever Hanna had promised in his name. Hanna had made arrangements with "the interests" and with the boss politicians all over the country.

Had McKinley lived, there would have been no prosecutions for land frauds in Oregon nor anywhere else, no attack on railroad rebates or other corporation misconduct, no effort to curb the rapacity of predatory wealth in any direction. McKinley's function as President was merely to carry out the bargains made by Mark Hanna.

It was done in Oregon; it was done everywhere. Mitchell, with whom Hanna made the bargain as to Oregon, was able, through that bargain, to control everything in Oregon and to secure "protection" for everybody and everything in Oregon, so long as McKinley lived. These were the "policies" that Roosevelt refused to continue, not only in Oregon but throughout the United States.

It was Roosevelt's "burial" of these "policies" that gave him the tremendous popularity attested by the election of 1904, and manifest ever since.

THE PARDONING POWER.

The pardoning power is one of the most important of the executive functions. It is a power vested in the Governor of the state and the President of the Nation in order that injustice may be averted in those few instances in which innocent men are convicted or in which subsequent occurrences render clemency advisable. The pardoning power is not a personal privilege, to be exercised according to the passing whim, prejudice, interest or sympathy of the officer possessing it. A Governor, like a jury, is bound by the law of the state, and it is his duty in all his acts, to support the Constitution and laws of the state and not to set them aside whenever it suits his own personal views so to do. A Governor has no more moral right to set free a guilty prisoner than a judge has to refuse to sentence a guilty man after conviction.

Because of the frailty of human judgment and the occasional miscarriage of justice due to circumstances which strongly indicate the guilt of a man who is in reality innocent, it is necessary that there should be lodged somewhere the power to undo a wrong inadvertently committed under the forms of law. But it is not and never was intended that the executive department should revise or reverse the verdicts of juries and the judgments of courts where the only question is one of opinion. Courts were created for the purpose of construing laws, and juries were established for the purpose of weighing evidence. Appellate courts are maintained in order that errors in trial courts may be corrected. Thus is provided a complete system for the administration of justice and there is no need for the exercise of the pardoning power except in those rare instances in which all the material facts are not brought before the jury at the trial. A Governor who asserts and exercises the power to revise a jury's verdict or a court's interpretation of the law, assumes judicial functions which it was never intended that he should possess.

Before a Governor grants a pardon he should have before him evidence which was not before the jury and which is of such importance as to convince him that if the additional facts had been known to the jury the verdict would have been materially different. Aside from circumstances of this kind, there are few conditions which warrant executive interference. Deeds of heroism while in prison, or acts of peculiar value to the state may make it proper to grant a convict his freedom as a reward, but cases of this kind will always be rare.

THE OKLAHOMA BANKING LAW.

It sometimes happens that a project to which there are many theoretical objections works well in practice. When the plan of building the first ocean steamer was broached, an eminent scientist proved very satisfactorily to himself that it could not carry coal enough to take it from New York to Liverpool. For another example we recall an article by Professor Simon Newcomb a few years ago which demonstrated that no airship could ever be made to fly. In spite of such learned objections to their possibility, steamships now navigate the seas and the Wright brothers have shown pretty clearly that vessels will soon navigate the air. Discouraging predictions are no safer than other prophecies.

This may be the happy fortune of the Oklahoma law to insure bank deposits, though it can hardly be said yet that its success is assured. When this law was first passed there was much forecasting of the evils that were sure to flow from it. Some prophets feared that it would drive conservative bankers out of the state. Others opined that it would break down under the strain of the first failure that occurred. In actual practice the law has so far not disturbed the business of a single banker. Adventurous financiers are not a whit more common in Oklahoma than elsewhere. The truth seems to be that they are less common, since the effect of the law is to weed them out by making careful bankers exceedingly watchful of the rash ones. This is a consequence of that section of the law which compels all banks to contribute to the insurance fund.

Moreover, a failure has now occurred, and we can see how the Oklahoma statute stands the test. For one thing there was no descent of a flock of harpies, lawyers, receivers and deposit brokers upon the wreck. The State Commissioner took charge of the broken bank without delay. There were no court fees, no attorneys' bills, no plunder of any sort. Within an hour or two all the depositors had received their money cent per cent, without ceremony, delay, robbery or red tape, and the business was over.

All is well so far. How the law would stand the strain of a general panic remains to be seen. It may be said that there can be no panic, if there is confidence that every bank depositor will get his money. That is true, no doubt. But there will be no confidence under any system unless there shall be honest banking; and honest banking can be made certain only by honest and complete inspection. If there shall be honest inspection, then, to support the deposit guarantee scheme, it will be all right; but so, no doubt, would any system of banking be safe in the same circumstances.

THE DIRECTOIRE GOWN.

The history of women's costume is a study which attracts many investigators and huge volumes have been written about it. Many have tried to discover some law or fundamental principle which would account for the numerous changes in bonnets, gowns and blouses, but nobody seems to have succeeded. Scholars are pretty well agreed that fashion depends altogether upon fancy, which is a lawless thing whose vagaries cannot be accounted for by principles or predicted by rules. Still, one discerns without much difficulty an economic motive running through the changes in women's attire and men's also. It is not a bad thing for the purses of milliners and tailors to have the cut of garments so altered four or five times a year that everybody who wishes to be respectable must clothe himself anew. So much is evident. But how do the milliners and tailors compel the human race to contribute in this way to their enrichment? How do they go about it to force their new fashions upon the world?

It is done, like almost everything else that affects great numbers of people, by hypnotic suggestion. Orators know that any crowd is exceedingly susceptible to suggestion. By a gesture, a smile, a tone of the voice, they can change the mood of the multitude and sway its will as they please. The same is true in even greater degree of mankind as a whole. Nations are hypnotized every day by politicians, cranks, statesmen, playwrights. What we call commonly the imitative tendency is only another name for our susceptibility to hypnosis or suggestion and the influence always works best when it flows from persons who are eminent in some way, either on account of wisdom or folly or wealth or crime. The cause of their eminence does not seem to make much difference. Whatever they say or do we all rush to imitate. Milliners and tailors, like everybody else who succeeds in business, are expert practical psychologists. They have studied human nature so far as it concerns their own affairs and know exactly how to turn it to their profit. Political economy, though it makes great pretensions to being an independent science, is only a branch of psychology.

Those who invent new fashions know that the whole world will adopt them if they are first worn by somebody who is talked about a great deal. They may be ridiculous, like the hoopskirt; they may incommode everybody in the neighborhood, like the merry widow hat; they may be destructive to health, like the corset; they may be painful, like tight shoes, with the heel in the middle of the instep; they may be everything that is absurd, uncomfortable, monstrous, or wicked; all that is of no consequence. When a new fashion has been worn by King Edward or a Parisian actress, the whole world will wear it and suffer whatever may ensue. Against this tendency of mankind it is idle to reason. The wisdom of the ages and the exhortations of all the saints stand no chance whatever of victory against the dictates of a French milliner or the example of a royal dude. If every preacher in the world should join in saying that the new directoire gown was wicked and every doctor should declare that it was deadly, within a few weeks we should see all the women wearing it just the same.

But is it wicked? Is it a thing to be ashamed of? From a cut printed in The Oregonian yesterday we know how it looks. It has the skirt slit down one side, and somewhat shorter than we are used to seeing, producing a good deal of the effect of a long overcoat. One gathers from the picture that the directoire gown must give women much more freedom of movement than they have hitherto enjoyed, while it is hard to discern anything about it that ought to disturb the most vigilant susceptibilities, and yet it may be immodest. The subject of modesty in women's attire is fully as perplexing as contingent remainders in law. It is improper to wear upon a dirty street a gown which does not trail in the filth and sweep it up to be redistributed in parlors, but it is entirely proper to parade about upon a public bathing beach with scarcely any clothing at all. What the general rule may be about this delicate matter it is almost impossible to decide. The most one can say is that women seem to be under binding obligation to show as little as possible of their feet and as much as possible of everything above their feet. If this is a correct statement of the law of fashionable morality, then the directoire gown sins against modesty, for it shows the feet quite distinctly and conceals everything else.

There is a common saying that men dress for their business while women dress to make playthings of themselves, but, like most maxims, this is unfair. Women dress for their business quite as much as men do. Those who deck themselves out like dolls or playthings as a rule are playthings. They make their living in that way either under legal sanction or without it. Women who have useful occupations in the world dress for them as sensibly as men do, though with different costume, of course. The attire of industrious people changes with the fashions, but not nearly so much or so strikingly as that of the idle. Those whose income and standing in the world depend upon their looks must draw attention to them by constant novelty in their clothes. Those who live by work are disposed to make their garments subordinate to comfort and freedom of movement. After all, we must probably agree that the economic motive dominates in fashion as it does elsewhere.

HANDICAP ON ORIENTAL TRADE.

In his testimony before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington, Wednesday, Traffic Manager Stubbs, of the Harriman system, called attention to a matter of grave importance to the Pacific Coast ports, as well as to all of the interlying country between these ports and the Mississippi River. The present hard-and-fast rule which prevents the railroad company from meeting the competition of the Suez Canal carriers with a low through rate from the East to the Orient has practically killed the Oriental trade out of Pacific ports, except for the comparatively small amount of business originating at the Coast ports. Theoretically it may not seem right that the Hongkong merchant should receive his freight from Chicago under a through bill of lading at a lower proportionate rate than is demanded from the Portland merchant who is also shipping goods over the Harriman line from Chicago.

But the freight originating at Portland, at Seattle, Tacoma or San Francisco is insufficient to supply cargoes for enough steamers to give these ports as frequent a service as is required for the expeditious transaction of business. Accordingly it becomes necessary that the steamship companies either make the sailings less frequent and thus hamper our local business, or secure enough Eastern freight to fill out cargoes for a frequent service. Facing such conditions, the Coast people are naturally desirous that the railroad should secure this needed Eastern freight anywhere and at any rates at which it can be secured. By shipping this freight through the Pacific ports, and not by way of the Suez Canal, the railroads can bring to this Coast hundreds of cars which can be used for hauling to the Eastern markets lumber, hops, fruit and other Western commodities, periods when there is a sufficiency of cars for this traffic being most infrequent.

Under the present restrictive rule of the Interstate Commerce Commission the money paid for this American freight going to the Far East by way of the canal is practically all paid to foreigners. The Suez Canal, with its heavy dues, absorbs the greater part of it, and British coal yards along the route take up the little remaining aside from the moderate profit to the foreign shipowner. If this traffic were permitted to follow the shortest route to the Far East, it would nearly all be shipped through the Pacific Coast ports, conferring on these ports, in addition to the benefits already mentioned, the benefit of steamship and railroad disbursements at terminals.

Under the low rates that it is necessary to make in order to meet the competition of the Suez, these terminal disbursements, with the actual cost of moving the freight across the continent, absorb practically all that is received for the service, and perhaps more, but the money is all spent in this country, and the loss, if there should be a slight one, is more than offset by the advantage gained in bringing loaded instead of empty cars across the continent. International trade is different from interstate traffic and the Interstate Commerce Commission should remove the restrictions with which they have hampered it. Here at last is a case in which the people of Portland, as well as all other Pacific Coast ports, will stand solid with Mr. Stubbs and wish him success.

THE SUPERANNUATED TEACHERS.

A year ago The Oregonian recorded the retirement from the teachers' profession, after forty years' continuous, conscientious effort as professor of Latin and Greek in Pacific University, of Professor Joseph W. Marsh. In this connection it was glad to know that the institution that he had served so long and so well rendered him due honor, and that as a beneficiary of the Carnegie fund for college professors of high grade and long continued service, he was assured of a comfortable support for himself and wife during the remaining years of his life. Professor Thomas M. Gatch, late president of the Oregon State Agricultural College, has, too, within the same time, gone out of active work, after a long, honorable and highly useful record in the educational history of the Pacific Northwest, and he, too, is to be a beneficiary of the Carnegie fund.

A few days ago there was printed in The Oregonian a sketch of the life work of George A. Peebles as comprised in forty years of continuous service, mostly in the schools of Marion County. Neither Professor Marsh nor Dr. Gatch, nor Mr. Peebles, nor any other man or woman who follows the vocation of teaching throughout all his effective years, was able to acquire a competency as the fruits of his earnest, strenuous, intelligent endeavor. Forced into retirement, by conditions which no man is able to control, conditions due to time and change and the long stress of labor—the worn-out and outworn teacher is left to the approval of his conscience and to such small devices for a livelihood as come within the range of his physical ability or mental aptitude. The scope of these, as everybody knows, is narrow, the remuneration that they offer is meager. Except that in the dignity of his life and in the high order of his mental and educational attainments he is above the reach of pity in the ordinary acceptance of that term, the condition of the superannuated teacher, like that of his superannuated brother in the ministry, would appeal to the gracious commiseration of his fellow men. But pity is profitless. It is besides so closely allied to charity that no self-respecting man is a subject for it, in a financial or industrial sense. What, then, when a man finds himself after forty years of strenuous effort as an educator in the common schools without a modest competency for his old age? Manifestly he is too old to begin life over. Is not the humble teacher who has during forty years in his vocation come in contact with and laid a shaping hand upon the lives of thousands of boys and girls worthy of some such consideration as is being shown to the honored beneficiaries of the Carnegie fund for superannuated college professors? Since paternalism in the Government is so much in evidence these days, is it too much to ask that it be extended to meet the simple necessities of life for the superannuated teacher? Our economic system is manifestly at fault where it comes in contact with our educational system. Otherwise teachers of accredited value, as attested by long years of service, would receive a yearly remuneration from which it would be possible to save the rainy-day fund for which prudence in every walk of life strives, in no vocation more carefully than in that of the teacher. But since this is a fault that is not likely to be corrected, there is a strong element of merit in the plea that is now and then made, and has in some places been allowed, for pensioning superannuated teachers—not as a matter of charity, but of justice.

WHY HAVE A STATE UNIVERSITY?

It is believed that it may be a good plan just now to restate some of the arguments for the University appropriation. Beyond question the voters of Oregon wish to decide this controverted matter upon its merits. They desire to do the right thing about it, to take action which shall be best, not only for their particular towns or counties, but for the whole state, and not for the present merely, but for the long future through which Oregon must pass before its destiny is fulfilled. It is not believed that their votes upon the appropriation will be decided by petty considerations of profit and loss. If the measure carries, a few cents will be added to our taxes for every thousand dollars of property; but the burden will hardly be felt. But even if it were felt, and felt severely, the public-spirited citizen who cares for the welfare of his family and the state where he lives would not permit his vote to be determined by that consideration alone. He would look at the question from all sides and try his best to decide it with broad and statesmanlike wisdom.

Oregon needs educated brains today more than anything else. Providence has given us mines and soil and forests; but if we ever have political efficiency we must earn it ourselves, and there is no way to acquire it except by study and wise practice. Every voter in this state has undertaken to do what is left elsewhere to trained statesmen. Hence he needs the education of the statesman. The education of the common schools is not enough. He needs all the wisdom of the world, all the thought and experience that mankind has accumulated. And this there is no way to get except through a great popular university which is supported by the people and belongs to them. From the schools endowed by millionaires knowledge comes down to us perverted to class uses. The truth is taught in them with a bias. They are consecrated to privilege and the maintenance of the conventions upon which privilege rests. It is in state universities alone that thought is free to erect the intellectual bulwarks of democracy.

Scholars who are supported by the gifts of millionaires necessarily side with the privileged classes. It is folly to expect them to quarrel with their bread and butter. If the people desire sympathy from the learned they must develop a learned class from among themselves and support it from their own pockets. Hence the outcry against the state university is not by any means in the interest of democratic ideas, but entirely the contrary. It is aristocratic in its source and tendency. Should it prevail it would lead to the destruction of the people's sole access to the repositories of higher knowledge and make expert political education the exclusive possession of the wealthy and their sympathizers. It follows that the downfall of the State University would amount almost to political suicide for the popular cause in Oregon.

DELAYING PROSPERITY'S RETURN.

Industrial expansion in this country was halted by high prices for practically every commodity required in the transaction of business. The increased cost of living and of every article in use by either capital or labor, eventually reached such alarming heights that the immutable law of gravitation appeared, and the structure of unexampled prosperity, which had been reared somewhat hastily and carelessly, wavered and fell. There was no crash such as has been experienced in previous troubles of a similar nature, and it might be a more accurate comparison to say that the structure settled back on its foundation, where it now awaits the necessary repair work. In some lines there is a disposition to accept the changed conditions and get busy with the repairs. In others, there is a stubborn determination to cling to the old standard of prices and prolong the inactivity until the unselfish efforts of those who are making concessions, like the constant dropping that wears the stone away, shall succeed in accomplishing readjustment of unsettled conditions.

No more striking contrast in the attitude of two great industries can be imagined than that of the steel trust and the New England cotton manufacturers. The steel trust magnates, at a grand banquet held at the Waldorf-Astoria a few days ago, decided that "the prices of steel are reasonable and should not be reduced." As the steel trust, when the panic was at its height, took advantage of its opportunity and absorbed the last remaining vestige of competition in the trade, the fiat that was sent forth from the Waldorf-Astoria is inexorable. Throughout that vast empire lying west of the Mississippi River are innumerable railroad projects designed to open up new territory and increase the producing powers of our country. Reduction in the price of steel, the most expensive product used in railroad building, would induce capital to take up some of these projects. It would supply employment for thousands of idle men, both in manufacturing the steel and in building railroads.

Europe felt the pinch of slackening trade, and with reduced wages and lower cost of material has kept her factories working. Were it not that the steel "trust of a thousand millionaires" is so firmly intrenched behind impenetrable tariff walls, we could bring to bear some pressure against the despotic monopoly by admitting competition based on a supply and demand policy. This would enable the railroads to proceed with their construction work, new territory would be developed, new wealth created, and in a short time we should again be enjoying high prices, high wages and general prosperity, conditions which cannot obtain until general concessions are made.

In contrast with the arrogant attitude of the steel trust is that of the New England cotton mills. To stimulate the demand and keep the mills running, heavy reductions were made in prices, and, with a thorough understanding of the situation, union labor gracefully assisted in the readjustment which brought with it cheap clothing for other laborers, and at least a start toward improved conditions. In his report to the members of the Textile Council (the cotton-workers' labor organization), the president called attention to the fact that the reduction was "the heaviest that had ever been made at any one time in the wages of the Fall River operatives." The report further stated that "while we realize that the reduction is a steep one, we hope and feel that you will not lose sight of the fact that it is being taken from the highest rate of wages that has ever prevailed during the life of the Textile Council, and for many years previous to its existence." A universal sentiment of this nature will restore good times more rapidly than anything else that can be invoked, and the delay will all be directly chargeable to tariff-protected obstructionists like the steel trust magnates.

Mary Hinton, aged 54, a magazine writer of some note, was a woman who at least possessed the courage of her convictions. In her estimate "life is something that we have the privilege of ending when we choose." Of this strangely estimated "privilege," she availed herself a day or two ago, by turning on the gas in her room in Washington, leaving the Coroner's jury to complete the story, and the world of intelligence, that had known her to some extent, to marvel at the folly of her reasoning. She was not a brave woman, else she would not have given up the battle so soon; not an observant and logical woman, else she would not have made the mistake of assuming that her life was hers, alone to use, abuse or forfeit at her will; not a womanly woman, else she would have had ties in life at 54 that would have made it worth while to live yet longer if Nature had so decreed. Of her it may be said in pity and commiseration, "She died as the fool dieth."

High winds and dry weather in Eastern Oregon a few weeks ago had a bad effect on two leading industries. They blew the dirt away from the wheat, and transferred it into the heavy fleeces of the sheep. This is given as one of the reasons for the low prices offered for wool. There is considerable difference in the prices offered for this great staple as compared with those prevailing last year, but if there should be an improvement in general trade conditions it is reasonably certain that the wool industry would share in its benefits.

Judge O'Day, a man of dignity on the bench, a man of judgment and learning and bearing fit for the office, is one of the description that should be re-elected. It is an office in which politics cannot possibly have a place. Of John Manning, District Attorney, it is to be said also that he has the qualities proper for the position he has filled during his term, and moreover has served the public well. When it can be said that men have proved their fitness, nothing is to be added.

There is no sort of objection to Mr. La Follette fighting it out on this line if it takes all Summer, provided he contents himself with publication of his exploits in the Congressional Record, where nobody has to read them.

Senator La Follette spoke 18 hours and 43 minutes for his share of the filibuster. Senator Bourne could not be found. However, he doesn't care for speechmaking. He talks through circular letters.

Over in Seattle there is some concern as to whether the A.-Y.-P. Fair is to be open on Sundays. Here there is just a little yearning to know if the fair will be open on week days.

The law should be amended to supply a picture album at each polling place so that voters might better know how to choose.

The "true" fish bill is the bill to allow you to take all the fish you can get and forbid the other fellow to take any.

Today's prophets will be discredited tomorrow, but that will not diminish the crop of "I-told-you-so's."

Don't forget that Oregon weather can prescribe better rose food than all the culturists in the state.

June 1 is at hand. If you don't believe it, look at the almanac and not at the weather vane.

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM MEASURES

The Oregonian prints herewith in full the titles to all the various measures to be passed on by the voters Monday, in the order in which they will appear on the ballot, with a suggestion as to suitable action by the voter in marking his ballot. On several of the measures, however, The Oregonian offers no advice. In most cases it seems clear to The Oregonian what the electorate of the state ought to do:

Referred to the People by the Legislature.

For an amendment of section 28 (evidently intended to be section 29) of article IV of the Constitution, changing the compensation of members of the Legislature to $400 for each regular session and $10 per day for each extra session instead of $3 per day and mileage. (Section 28 provides the time when laws take effect, and the proposed amendment is, therefore, wrongly numbered.)
Vote NO.

For an amendment of section 3 of article XIV of the Constitution, to permit the location of state institutions elsewhere than at the seat of government by act of the Legislature and vote of the people.
Vote NO.

An amendment to article VII of the Constitution by increasing the number of judges of the Supreme Court from three to five, until otherwise provided by law, and authorizing the Legislative Assembly to provide by appropriate legislation for the exercise of the Circuit Courts, of the probate jurisdiction theretofore exercised by the County Courts, and for the transaction of county business by and before some appropriate body or tribunal.
Vote NO.

For amendment of section 14 of article II of the Constitution, changing the time of holding the regular general biennial elections from the first Monday in June to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.
Vote YES.

Referendum Demanded by the People.

An act providing that in all counties, the Sheriff shall have the custody of prisoners committed to or confined in the county jail and such prisoners shall be worked at such places and for such time and in such manner as the County Court may direct, and that in counties of over 100,000 inhabitants the salaries of guards and jailers shall not exceed $90 per month and the price of meals furnished prisoners shall be 12½ cents each.
Vote YES.

For an act requiring railroads and other common carriers to grant free transportation to state officers and county judges and sheriffs, as a condition precedent to acquiring land for corporate purposes by the exercise of eminent domain, and to prohibit the payment of mileage for such free transportation.
Vote NO.

An act to appropriate $25,000 annually for four years, to be used in purchasing grounds and building armories for the use of the Oregon National Guard, the money to be expended under the supervision of the State Military Board at any time during the four years, the Board not being required to use each appropriation the year it is appropriated. The Oregon National Guard is required to pay to the State Treasurer such rental, for the use of said armories, as may be fixed by the State Military Board.
Vote YES or NO.

An act to amend Section 3529 of Bellinger & Cotton's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Oregon by increasing the annual appropriation for the support and maintenance of the University of Oregon.
Vote YES.

Proposed by Initiative Petition.

For equal suffrage constitutional amendment, permitting women to vote on equal terms with men.
Vote YES or NO.

For an act prohibiting fishing for salmon or sturgeon on Sunday from January 1 to October 1, also in the Columbia River only from October 1 to December 31, also in the navigable channels of Columbia River at night, also at any time in Sandy River and in Columbia River west of west line of Range 9 West, near Astoria, and east of west line of Range 16 East, near Celilo; and limiting seines anywhere in the state to 150 fathoms long and 4 1-6 fathoms deep, and providing penalties.
Vote NO.

For constitutional amendment, giving additional and exclusive power to cities and towns, within their corporate limits, to license, regulate, control and tax or to suppress or prohibit theaters, racetracks, poolrooms, bowling alleys, billiard halls and the sale of liquors, subject to the provisions of the local option law of the State of Oregon.
Vote NO.

For constitutional amendment providing that all dwelling-houses, barns, sheds, outhouses and all other appurtenances thereto; all machinery and buildings used exclusively for manufacturing purposes and appurtenances thereto; all fences, farm machinery and appliances used as such; all fruit trees, vines, shrubs, and all other improvements on farms, all livestock, all household furniture in use, and all tools owned by workmen and in use, shall be exempt from taxation, in addition to exemptions now authorized by the Constitution.
Vote NO.

For an amendment to Article II of the Constitution, giving the voters power to call a special election at any time to discharge any public officer and elect his successor.
Vote NO.

A bill for a law instructing members of the Legislature to vote for and elect the candidates for United States Senator who receive the highest number of votes at the general election.
Vote NO.

For constitutional amendment giving the people power to make laws for election of public officers by majority vote instead of pluralities; to provide that political parties and voters' organizations shall be proportionably represented in all offices filled by the election of two or more persons, and that a voter shall vote for only one person for any office, and may indicate his second, third, etc., choice; and to provide for a simple method of precinct residence and registration.
Vote NO.

A bill for a law to limit the amount of money candidates and other persons may contribute or spend in election campaigns; declaring what shall constitute corrupting use of money and undue influence in elections and punishing the same; prohibiting attempts on election day to persuade any voter to vote for or against any candidate or candidates or any measure submitted to the people; to protect the purity of the ballot; furnishing information to voters concerning candidates and parties, partly at public expense, and providing for the manner of conducting election contests.
Vote NO.

For an act prohibiting, after August 25, 1908, fishing for salmon or sturgeon at any time, by any means, except hook and line, in the Sandy River or any of its tributaries, or in the Columbia River, or any of its tributaries, at any place up stream from its confluence with the Sandy River, or with hook and line during the spawning season.
Vote NO.

For constitutional amendment providing for the choosing of jurors and grand jurors, and that no person can be charged in the Circuit Courts with the commission of a crime or a misdemeanor except upon indictment found by a grand jury, except when a court holds an indictment to be defective, the District Attorney may file an amended indictment.
Vote NO.

A bill for an act to create the County of Hood River out of the western portion of Wasco County; providing for its organization and fixing the salaries of the officers thereof.
Vote YES or NO.

Shall the corporate powers of the Port of Portland be enlarged by authorizing it to establish and maintain a towage and pilotage service upon the Columbia River bar and on the Willamette and Columbia rivers, between the southern limits of said port and the sea; with authority, for the purposes aforesaid, to issue and dispose of its bonds in amount not exceeding $500,000, bearing not exceeding 6 per cent annual interest; and to levy and collect annual taxes upon property within its limits subject to taxation, not exceeding one-half mill in addition to taxes now authorized?
Vote YES.