

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, DEC. 3, 1916

JAILBIRDS AS LAWYERS. In the past it was not uncommon for initiative petition shovers to resort to the back room of a saloon...

That is real genius. What jailbird, approached by an outsider with stern advice or menacing threats, would refuse to sign anything put before him?

Invasion of the jail for lawgivers was but one incident of the campaign for names for single tax. The petitions carry in large numbers the names of transients who at the time of signing were lodged in hotels in the city...

By such means are intricate and revolutionary measures forced upon the ballot. It is so that no general election is free from initiative scandal or suspicion.

It is so easy to shout about the opposition of "money lords" and "vested interests" and "predatory monopolies" and "trusts" and "rigging," when one cannot think of sound argument to advance in behalf of a perilous practice or dubious enterprise.

SPECIAL TRAINING NEEDED.

The field for men with special training broadens in proportion, it would seem, as the opportunity is narrowed for the young man who has no particular thought to preparation for serious work.

RAISING MORE BENS.

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Further hope is held out, also, by Theodore Hewes, secretary of the Chickadee poultry show, who says that the dweller in the suburban districts of even the large cities can do his part in reducing the cost of living not only for himself but for others by "raising a few hens in his back yard."

to act, but will send men of their own, and they will be even more exacting in their requirements. There is no doubt that we shall need to busy ourselves with this trade problem when the European war is over, and that the opportunities for qualified investigators will increase rather than diminish as time runs on.

BY THE HALF MILLION.

Five hundred thousand visitors taxed the hotel and lodging-house resources of New York, at the end of last week, and the adjacent cities of New Jersey had to be called on to accommodate some of the guests.

The rush to New York from all parts of the country during the past year has been remarkable. It is partly a reason and wholly a symptom of the present-day prosperity.

AN EARLY DAY STATESMAN.

The ordinary reader of American history will have no great difficulty in recalling the name and record of John Adams; but not many can tell of the man who preceded him, until Marshall, Tompkins resided over the Senate from 1817 till 1825, under James Monroe.

Many Presidents have been re-elected; but the rule has been that there shall be a change in the presidency. Washington had John Adams for two terms; but Jefferson had Clinton and Burr; Madison had Clinton and Gerry; Andrew Jackson had Calhoun and Van Buren; Lincoln had Sumner and Johnson; Grant had Colfax and Wilson; Cleveland had Hendricks and Stevenson; McKinley had Hobart and Roosevelt; Mr. Wilson has again Thomas R. Marshall.

OUR LEGAL FESSMISTS.

The bone-dry amendment is ineffective without further legislation, according to competent legal opinion, the tax-exemption amendment is in a similar plight, say others, and now former Attorney-General Crawford asserts that the single-item veto amendment is ineffectual.

WAR-MADE PROSPERITY.

Our good friend The Oregonian seems much gratified that Portland is becoming a rich city. It is gratified that building going on within her limits, or near them, is not a thing to be envied, but at the same time hopes that Portland will not be a city of the past, but a city of the future.

REFORMING THE PATENT LAWS.

That the path to reform of the patent laws is not yet a plain and open one is pointed out by Commissioner Thomas Ewing, of the Patent Office, in a recent statement in which he opposes enactment of laws requiring either compulsory license or compulsory working.

square if due attention is given to cleanliness and to high air. He has found from his own experience that it is even possible to keep half a dozen hens in a box six feet by three, by moving the box occasionally.

In breeding time, the cockerels should be eaten as soon as they are old enough for the purpose, and surplus pullets should be similarly disposed of. The purpose of the plan is that it is not a big one.

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REAR MEER'S PILGRIMAGE.

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cold shoulder," but Philadelphia opened its heart to him. At Washington however, President Roosevelt gave him "a royal welcome" for the Colonel is Western in spirit and honors the pioneers and their deeds.

The varieties of reception tendered to Verhaeren are illuminating as to the people's understanding of the great events in their own history. All should be well enough informed to know the great part which the migration to Oregon territory to the Pacific Coast, but many were so ignorant that they regarded the venerable pioneer as a wandering fakir.

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that many inventions are suppressed, Commissioner Ewing holds that this practice is not general, and to affect the general principle, and that to compel the manufacture of machines that did not fit into the general purpose of industry would be an economic burden.

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because, in spite of the many things we have in our country, we are constantly aping foreign things. It is refreshing to hear him talk, because, after all, he is so complimentary. He says we have splendid women, magnificent architecture, wonderful orchestras, and he mentions our cocktails—evidently not having been in the country long enough to observe the tendency of the times—

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Gleams Through the Mist

By Dean Collins. Gone is the boom of the brown bee's bustle. Dried are the founts of the honey brew.

IN THE GARDEN.

Only the wind goes rustle, rustle. The stiff, dry vines of the sweetpea through. Geraniums have been scathed and crossed by the biting kiss of the bitter frost.

A FLAGE OF GOLD.

The American people are in the anomalous position of having more gold than they know how to use in legitimate business. The further anomalies exist of Great Britain pouring more gold into our hands and of American bankers urging clients who sell goods to Britain to take payment in credits, without collateral, not in gold.

VILLA'S RIDING SONG.

I come from haunts no one can learn, I make a sudden salley. And when Carranza's troopers turn, I skittle up an alley.

CHANT MILITANT.

(Sung by the housewives.) The housewife to the war has gone, Against the strange devices, Which, through the seasons of and on, Have hoisted up food prices.

A SONG OF THE LINE.

(Such as may be sung almost any time in the entrance of Wells-Fargo building in these troublous times.) Stand to the line and be strong, Halting not in your ways.

DIRTY STUFF.

The foregoing song of the line was sung for no especial moral purpose, except to preface a return to our discussion of last week with Orr O. Smith. True to our promise, we allowed him to come into the column and tack down a strip of lamentation about the impending bone-dry state on condition that we should hold the authority to allow someone else to come in with a package of poems devoted to the other side of the question.

Banished Boozie.

Wake! For the Sun that scattered into Flight The bars before him from the Field of Night, Drives shipments with them from the Town, and strikes Wells-Fargo's office with a shaft of Fright.

It does seem as if King Constantine's prediction as to the future of Roumania is about to be fulfilled.

Judging from the November liquor imports, the "safety first" propaganda has not fallen on stony ground.

Perhaps Villa is vexed because he, too, was not asked to sign the protocol.

An Essay Eaten, but—

From the Boston Transcript. Teacher—Robert, how is it that you haven't your lesson? It couldn't have been so very hard to learn. Bobby—No, please, teacher; it wasn't because it was so hard to learn, but because it was so easy to forget.