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THE SPECIAL SESSION.

Governor Lord has been requested, principally by a few Portland people, to convene the legislature in extraordinary session. The object ostensibly to be accomplished is the reduction of the state's expenditures, and a consequent lowering of taxes.

In discussing the feasibility and necessity of the proposed special session, it must be borne in mind that the state has three distinct branches of government: the legislative, the judicial and the executive. Each branch has peculiar duties to perform and should not encroach upon the functions of either of the other departments.

The election of a senator by the legislature interferes too much with its real work. Senatorial contests are responsible for much of our public extravagance. They afford splendid opportunities for trading votes, and the state treasury is robbed for some private institution or benefit of some particular locality in order that some certain man should be sent to Washington, where he can benefit his political friends by the distribution of national patronage.

The source from which this demand for an extra session emanates causes grave suspicions as to the real motive prompting such demand. A special session may mean economy, but it may, also, and more likely, mean political jobbery. Nearly every paper in the state, beside the morning and evening Oregonian, protest against the proposed extra session as an unnecessary expense, with no assurance of any beneficial results.

THE board of regents of the Agricultural College have no disposition to make that institution a burden upon the taxpayers. They are conducting their affairs upon business principles, and while not impairing the efficiency of the college in the slightest degree, they see to it that not one cent is uselessly expended. They have decided that they can get along without any state aid, and the people this year will not have to dig up any money for the maintenance of the Agricultural College.

ELECTION BY THE PEOPLE.

"The senate of the United States shall be chosen by a direct vote of the people of the several states, for six years; and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature; and a plurality shall elect."

Senator Mitchell, of Oregon, has introduced a joint resolution in the senate proposing the above amendment to the constitution of the United States. The amendment has been advocated for a long time, through the newspapers, on the stump, and by party platforms. The senate has been inclined to treat the matter as a mere political ploy—a something with which to cajole the people, but that merits no real serious attention. The senators do not mind the introduction of such resolutions, but treat them as a standing joke along with the women's suffrage bills, and send them to some committee for strangulation. But as old foggyism is worked out of the senate the proposition to elect senators by a direct vote of the people begins to find favor.

The present method of electing United States senators is uncertain, unsatisfactory, stupid, undemocratic and antagonistic to the best interests of the several states. Deadlocks are hardly infrequent, and several states have been left without their proper representation, through the inability of their legislatures to agree upon a proper man. There is no more reason for electing a senator by this method than any other officer. It is not an election of the people. The influence of wealth and the favor of politicians control the election of a senator more often than the desire of the voters. The present system is a relic of monarchy and was adopted during the formation of our government as a sort of compromise with those who were afraid of absolute rule by the people.

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The last senatorial contest in Oregon is a fair sample of what our state has to suffer through this cumbersome method of choosing members of the national senate. Needed legislation was blocked and prevented by the long drawn out fight, and the people will realize how expensive a luxury a senator elected by the legislature is, when they go to pay their taxes this year.

It cost the country \$91,621.38 to experiment with the collection of the unconstitutional income tax feature of the free traders' tariff bill.

CAREFUL observers agree, says the New York Mail, that the highest achievement of the Cleveland administration is the attitude to which it has lifted the public debt.

SENIOR MITCHELL is a tireless worker for his Oregon constituents, and is constantly alive to their best interests. He never leaves a stone unturned to do some effective work in the interest of the people whom he represents, and his long experience in national legislation and high standing at the capital of the nation, redound to the advantage of the people of Oregon.—Oregon City Enterprise.

THEIR SINS, NOT LORD'S.

The Oregonian, politically, is a most unscrupulous paper. Its recent attack on Governor Lord was prompted by spite and its statements were maliciously false. The state officers are not above criticism, but such criticism by public journals, should be honest, fair and in the interests of the people. The attempt to saddle upon Governor Lord the sins of the last legislature is absolutely ridiculous. This bluster of the Oregonian is simply another case of the thief crying "stop". Whether the Simon ring controls the Oregonian or the Oregonian controls the Simon ring, they work hand in hand; and that ring is responsible for the failure of the legislature to enact economical legislation.

The house was not under the machine's control and passed many meritorious bills, that would have resulted in the reduction of public expenditures. They, however, were promptly killed in the senate, where Simon and McGinn held supreme sway. The Oregonian is dishonest and unreliable in its efforts to fix the responsibility for the misdoings of the legislature. It absolutely ignores the devilry of its own political clique, and attempts to shield them at the expense of an innocent party.

The legislature was not composed of imbeciles or infants. The members are responsible for their own acts and should be held accountable. The legislature is responsible for its sins of omission and commission, and the senate was the principle sinner. Governor Lord had no voice in either house.

Some official acts of Governor Lord's do deserve criticism. His appointment of a disreputable fellow, Henry E. McGinn, as circuit judge in Multnomah county, was highly improper, and the really independent papers of the state severely censured Governor Lord on this account. The Oregonian, however, was discreetly silent, for McGinn was a ward-striker of the clique of which the Oregonian is now a mouthpiece. It did venture the hope that Henry would be a better boy after donning the ermine.

No wonder the Oregonian "has no friends" although it has affiliates in certain peanut politicians. No wonder that San Francisco papers, with news two days old, are usurping the Oregonian's field. No wonder that the Oregonian's influence with the people of the state works contrary wise, for they recognize it as the exponent of machine politics and political corruption, notwithstanding its audacious claims of political purity and devotion to public interests.

STATE AID DECLINED. The board of regents of the Agricultural College have declined the \$2,500 annually appropriated by statutory provision for the maintenance of the institution. This is but right; for the state had no business making such an appropriation. The school was founded by the national government and is supported by it. The public school system is enough in the educational line for the state to take care of in the way of actual maintenance. The board of regents, however, deserve credit, for in these grasping days it is almost incredible that an institution will absolutely refuse state money, especially after it is actually appropriated.

It is the duty of the state, under its contract with the federal government, by which it accepted the college, to provide the necessary buildings. The state should do this, but should do no more. Oregon receives as much from the national government for her college as the wealthiest and most populous state in the Union. This last year the institution brought about \$46,000 into the state. Oregon can well afford, from a business standpoint, an occasional appropriation for building purposes to save that sum annually to the state.

Proposals for Wood. Notice is hereby given that the Clerk of School District No. 9, Benton County, Oregon, will receive sealed bids to furnish the said School District with wood for the coming year, to-wit: 20 cords of oak-grub wood, and 80 cords of split body red fir wood, (old growth), not less than four feet in length, nor less than three inches nor more than eight inches in diameter or thickness; said wood to be delivered at the school house of said district on or before August first, 1896. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved, and no bids will be received after February 6th, 1896. E. E. WILSON, Clerk.

PIONEER RECOLLECTIONS OF 1849.

TO THE EDITOR:— In my former letter we were settled in the shack, and provision made for our winter supplies, such as they were. Now came another family who were in worse circumstances, if possible, than the first; from the fact nature had supplied the first, while in winter or science had to assist the latter. In arranging for house keeping, it was announced there was no material to wash with, and no washing had been done for two months, and I had picked over my dozen shirts to find the cleanest one, until the cleanest one would scarcely bear evidence that it had ever gone through the ordeal of soap-suds and washboard. Young man of today, imagine, if you can, my condition. Then in my twenty-first year, isolated from friends and associations by two thousand miles of wearisome travel, with no possible chance of communication, only once a year when the emigrants would arrive. Another serious trouble was, I had never before been thrown on my own resources; never approached a man for employment in my life; in fact, had never worked but little. Was brought up on a farm, but older brothers and hired men did the work, thus preventing my acquiring preparatory knowledge of overcoming the difficulties that we meet in life. Something had now to be done to get our clothes and bedding washed. About this time I heard of a man by the name of Greenberry Smith, living six miles away, that had cattle, and occasionally butchered a beef. Accordingly I supposed he would have tallow to sell, and as fortune favored me, after paying the expenses of the little family I brought in, I had fifty cents left, so I struck out afoot, through the mud, and, luckily found the said Smith, and sure enough he had the desired tallow for sale. I gave him twenty-five cents out of my fifty cents capital for a small cask of tallow and brought it to camp; filled some oak tress near by; chopped them up and made a large pile of the logs and boughs of the trees; set fire to them, burned them to ashes; improvised a sort of leach, put the ashes into it; leached them off; from the lye thus procured we made soap; washed our clothing, did most of the washing myself, for the first time in my life attempting such work. But with the necessary instructions from the invalid mistress of the shack, we had clean clothing all the same. This being accomplished, nothing now to do but use our trusty rifles, kill game of different species, carry it in and have the woman cook, and all hands at it; laugh and be merry and grow fat. When we came in at night, the woman would have a kettle full of the game, killed the previous day, which they would set out, and we would go to the bottom of it, without bread, pepper, or salt, which I suppose would now be called meat straight. This process continued day after day and week after week. All seemed to enjoy the daily fare, with a contentment that it now seems impossible could exist under such circumstances. The parties had two tents, which were stretched on two sides of the cabin where the prevailing winds would have entered through the unclinked cracks of the cabin. So far as providing game for the sustenance of the camp, that was a daily picnic for the hunters, as game was there plentiful and real sport to procure. In the mean time, I had performed the necessary improvement on my homestead, to secure it under the laws in force at the time. So the winter passed off rapidly and all hands enjoyed themselves better than it can now be imagined that persons could under such circumstances. The middle of March came; the sun commenced shining, and indications of spring shone all around. It was now decided that some arrangement must be made to go to Salem for supplies of flour, sugar and coffee, and especially salt, as we seemed to crave that article more than all else combined. The main trouble was, how to get there. Samp Creek, Luckinette and Rickrial were all swimming and there were no ferries on any of them. Arnold Fuller and John Stewart had made a large canoe for the purpose of carrying freight on the Willamette river, so the craft was procured. About the middle of March myself and brother, David Strond and Phil Peters navigated the boat down the river opposite our place and tied up for the night. Next morning the snow was six inches deep, but we started all the same, with blankets, and meat, as we thought, to last during the trip. Arrived at Salem that day. I had money to buy our part of the cargo; furnished by my cousin. The other party had no coin, so they had to go to the French settlement to procure their wheat some way, and never enquired as to how.

The third day all was ready for a start supply of meat had been exhausted. The snow, under the influence of a warm rain, had all disappeared, consequently the river was booming, bank-full. We bought the shoulder of a little hog, and of course we had flour; but it was but little better than the mixture we bought at Dallas. We found, the first day out, that with that big, heavy balm canoe, with the flour and offal of twenty-seven bushels of wheat, and four men to man it, we had an elephant on our hands. But it had to be done. The first night for supper, and breakfast our stock of pork disappeared, together with all the soft bones. For the next five days all we had to appease our hunger, was bread, and, as one of our party named it, "wallow." The way it was made: After baking our bread, the frying pan (all the cooking vessel we had) two-thirds full of water, salt it, put in a bit of tallow, let strike a boil, and put in some flour. That and pancake bread was the bill of fare for five days of the hardest work I ever performed. We landed our cargo opposite our camp; stacked the load under a fir tree; arrived at camp at ten o'clock at night. Next day we rigged a team and hauled the plunder home. The following day we went back, hitched onto the monster canoe (but little lighter than the one of our small river boats) hauled it home. This feat of engineering confirms me in the belief that a boat railway can be made to take steamers around the Collio falls above The Dalles. It is the first of April, the country is covered with a carpet of yellow flowers. This, together with the magnificent view from my homestead, perfectly enchanted me with my prospective home, and I have remained so ever since. The next morning I started for Puget sound. The hardship and disappointment of this trip will be the theme of my next communication.

Have you seen Nolan & Callahan's fat counter. Bargains in boots, shoes and rubber goods at Nolan & Callahan's.

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Could Not Sleep—Had No Appetite

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"I suffered very much for a long time with nervous prostration. I had about given up all hopes of ever getting better when Hood's Sarsaparilla was recommended to me and I believe it my duty to let other sufferers know the benefit I derived from it. I could not sleep at night, was without appetite, and what little I did eat I was unable to keep on my stomach. After taking the first bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla, which seemed to do me some good, I tried a second and continued to feel better. I got up feeling

Bright and Refreshed in the morning. I continued with the medicine and am cured, body and mind, can sleep well and feel better in every way. I gladly recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla to others." J. EDWARD RUFFLE, 154 Madison Ave., Allegheny, Pa.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Be Sure to Get Hood's Cures Hood's Pills cure all liver ills, biliousness, headache, etc.

DISCUSSES FINANCE, ETC. MITCHELL STATION, OR., Jan. 13, 1896.

EDITOR GAZETTE:— After adding to wife and infant, I started to the train, and found friends holding train for me. Dr. R. H. W. accompanied me to crossing; gave him charge of the family health. This train carried Henry Garhard and sister and Miss Rubenack for Los Angeles, and N. B. Avery, for San Francisco. All were going to Portland to take the overland for San Francisco at night. Prof. Heinrich, for an agricultural society meeting at Lafayette, Yamhill county, was also aboard, and at Forest Grove Prof. Moses Craig and his brother, Austin, also put in an appearance. Prof. C. was also aboard for San Francisco at night, and Mr. Austin for Hillsboro. Mr. Austin Craig is now editor of the "Oregon Hatchet," a paper published at Forest Grove. This was news to me. I was inquisitive as to its position on silver, and learned that the "Hatchet" advocates that we should have free and unlimited coinage of silver—confined, however, do the home product. My inquiry as to how this was to be confined to American silver, revealed the editors plan of placing a duty on foreign silver equal to the difference between the commercial value and the mint coinage value, which would be about 50 per cent. I asked how the government would prevent the outside product from slipping in over the border without paying its duty, and learned that it would be restrained as opium is now restrained. I am delighted to learn that an Oregon paper, published in a populist—or practically so—community, can advance a theory so satisfactory to its supporters. I do not believe, however, that the republican party will put this Utopian idea into its platform. The theory is commendable; it indicates that the editor has a good heart, and believes in the preponderance of good in the human family; but it fails, utterly, to indicate any reason why silver, under such conditions, would not be smuggled into this country, practically free, just as any man, who knows anything about the opium trade, knows that opium finds its way into the United States, practically free. We do admire the evident patriotism and righteousness of the editor's theory, but we are too dense to comprehend how it can be made practical. This subject was discussed by others interested, and the various populist, democratic and republican positions were compared. It was not made clear to my republican intellect how any kind of circulating medium can be permanent and enduring, which is not in itself commercially worth the amount it is declared by the government stamp to represent. Either it must be worth as much in any foreign country, without the mint stamp, as it is in this country with it, or else it must call for payment of a commodity worth commercially just what it claims on its face to be worth; and that commodity, whether it be gold or silver or wheat or real estate or real estate securities or personal obligations or what not, must be actually on deposit at the place where that medium is made payable. If any other sound currency can exist, I have never heard of it; and I have read all the "Coxey," "George," "Bellevue," populist, democratic, fiat, free silver, and foreign-fiat notions and theories which I have been able to find on that subject.

At Portland I was met by my brother, Elwin, and dined with him, after which I took the Union Pacific "overland flyer" for the east. The Pullman car "Kalama" was well filled with well-dressed people, and I found my bed comfortable, the cars easy and the roadbed smooth. At the summit of the Blue mountains, 280 miles from Portland, we had an excellent breakfast; which cost six-tis, and was set out in a great log house. This log house is artistically adorned on the outside and the interior is well furnished. It probably cost twice as much as a frame house, and would make an excellent fort in case of an Indian uprising.

This is written while the train is passing through the Grand Ronde valley, the hillsides all around being covered with snow, save in spots where the sun has melted the sides bare; and, as our friend Col. K., the "Nestor" of the Oregon bar, would say "all very fine." J. H. WILSON.

Notice. To the republicans of the second judicial district of Oregon—being Lane, Benton, Douglas, Lincoln, Coos and Curry counties, Gentlemen: Believing my past experience as assessor of Douglas county fits me for the office as a member of the state board of equalization for this district, I respectfully ask that you nominate me for said office, as I will fill the same without fear or favor to the best of my ability if elected. J. A. S. STEELING, Assessor of Douglas County.

American Catholics and the A. P. A. By Patrick Henry Winston.

The author of this book is a Protestant in religion, a native-born American citizen, and a descendant of the great revolutionary patriot and orator, Patrick Henry, of Virginia. In politics he is a republican, and was United States attorney for the State of Washington under President Harrison. On Sale at Conover's Bookstore, Corvallis. Price by mail, 25 cents.

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Notice of Final Settlement. Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned, administrator of the estate of Patrick Gillooly, deceased, has filed his final account of his administration of said estate with the County Clerk of Benton county, Oregon; that the County Court of said County by order has fixed the 7th day of Feb., 1896, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. of said day to hear any and all objections to said final account. Dated this 23rd day of Dec., 1895. HORACE UNDERHILL, Administrator of the estate of Patrick Gillooly, deceased.

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Money to Loan. I have money to loan on improved farm lands in Benton and Linn counties, in any sums of from \$500 up to \$10,000, on very favorable terms. For particulars and blank applications write to C. G. BURKEART, Albany, Oregon. Executor's Notice. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed executor of the last will and testament of W. H. H. Rich, deceased, late of Lincoln county, Oregon. All persons having claims against said deceased are notified to present the same, duly verified, to the undersigned at Medford, Jackson County, Oregon, or to Elkins & Cannon, attorneys, at their office in Albany, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof. Dated at Corvallis, Or., Dec. 16, 1895. ELKINS & CANNON, H. C. NUTE, Atty. for Executor.

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