

THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON PUBLISHED BY JOURNAL PUBLISHING CO. JNO. F. CARROLL

Published every evening (except Sunday) at The Journal Building, Fifth and Yamhill streets, Portland, Oregon.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

FROM A BUSINESS VIEW POINT.

IN THE CASE of Robertson vs. the Portland Club, now before Judge Sears' court, the public is being treated to some information as to the inside workings of the gambling industry which flourishes apace under the protection of the city fathers, and the facts brought out in the reports of this case furnish some food for thought. In the various licensed houses now running in the city may be found every day of the week from 3,000 to 5,000 men. This means that about 10 per cent of the men actively engaged in conducting the business of the community are directly brought into contact with gambling in its varied forms every day. These enter into every activity of the city's life, for whoever has visited the gambling houses knows that practically all professions and occupations are amply represented in the crowds that congregate there.

The influences at work in them are essentially immoral and brutalizing in the extreme, and no mining town in its palmiest days could boast of greater privileges in this respect than can our fair city today.

In these hotbeds of vice are breeding under the most favorable conditions imaginable, a host of parasites which fasten themselves upon the body social, and will not let go until they have liberally bled it of much hard earned cash.

Were this all, the seriousness of the evil might be debated; but there are other results, to one of which we briefly draw attention.

The habit of gambling essentially undermines the principle of common honesty upon which the whole fabric of a community's business is based. If, therefore, 10 men out of every 100 are daily being brought into contact with those influences which are universally acknowledged to be subversive of the very foundation of commercial life, it is evidently only a matter of time until the whole structure becomes insecure. This is, however, an ultimate condition which we are too sanguine to take seriously into account, because we believe too firmly in the practical common sense of the American people to imagine that they will allow present conditions to exist long enough to bring forth their full legitimate harvest. That a limit of forbearance does exist needs no proof, and there are signs that it has already been well nigh reached here. Unless we are much mistaken evidence of this will be forthcoming in due season, and that at no very distant date. It may be somewhat discomfiting, too, to some who now are very confident in their security.

The other issues of this state of affairs we pass by meantime, though no lack of appreciation of their importance, but because we believe that the men in whose charge lies the care of the commercial interests of the city need to be further aroused to the danger which lies at their door and that, being aroused, they will do their duty in putting a stop to this licensed nuisance of most demoralizing character. The demoralization of the whole affair lies at the door of those who have the power to stop it and could do so with a word; but who, before they will act, require to have the law interpreted to them by the supreme court of the state.

FACTS NOT DENUNCIATION.

WITH SUCH testimony as that which is being elicited at the hearing of Senator Dietrich of Nebraska, who is charged with having sold postoffice appointments for a liberal proportion of the salary, and with such cases as that of Senator Burton of Kansas who accepted big fees as a lawyer to get certain concessions from the department as a senator, it is not at all surprising that the general public look with some degree of credence upon the report of the postoffice department that many of the congressmen have been unduly active in securing unwarranted favors for their constituents, if not actually for themselves.

All of these investigations have left a bad taste in the public mouth. There has not only been much smoke but such tangible evidence of crookedness when the cases have been carefully investigated in the courts that a strong popular opinion prevails that there is very much more back of it all and that there is a perfect mass of transactions which have not received, but require, public exploitation. Mere denunciation by individual congressmen is of no consequence. What the public desires are the facts in the case. It has had enough experience with abusive epithets and it has already had occasion to discount vehement denials and indignant protests. It is undoubtedly true that

JAPAN'S FAR-REACHING PLANS.

Steadily Pursuing a Comprehensive Scheme of Operations.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Japan has started into the war with a presumption that she is going to win, and that she is sure of increased influence and power as a consequence. Several weeks before war began Japan sent orders to a Philadelphia concern to order 20 locomotives to be used on a military railroad which she intended to build, and which she is apparently building, from Fusan, on Korea's southern coast, to Seoul, that country's capital. The order for the locomotives is being pushed with all possible speed. Some of them have already been shipped and the remainder will go this week.

All the indications justify Japan's foresight and confidence. There have been no important military operations thus far, but the signs show that Japan is strengthening her position in Korea and then when a week or a month hence, the order is given to move forward, she will be able to drive out any Russians which she may find in that country. Russia has undoubtedly been strengthened physically though not morally by the removal of her headquarters to Harbin. This has weakened her hold on Port Arthur, but it has aided her in hanging on to the province by shortening the lines which she would have to guard. Port Arthur, it may be presumed, will be able to stand out against the Japanese in any case for a few weeks yet, whatever may be the fate of the Russian fleets in the Yellow Sea and the sea of Japan.

It is conceded that Japan is in complete control of all Korea from Seoul to the straits. Even north of the capital as far as Ping Yang, despite the reports of small bodies of Russians being seen there, Japan is probably master of the situation. Whenever she decides to make an advance she can probably drive the Russians up to and across the Yalu without much trouble. Her serious task will begin on the other side of that stream. The Russians will undoubtedly make a hard fight for the defense of the railway from Port Arthur to Harbin. Their prestige at home, as well as among all the conquered tribes in Siberia, depends on the maintenance of a stronghold in Manchuria. Japan made a brilliant fight on the water, but she is proceeding more deliberately on the land, knowing the difficulties are far greater. She is proceeding, however, with an intelligence and an elaboration of detail which show that her cam-

RUSSIA'S FRIENDSHIP.

Not Because of Any Sympathy With American Institutions or People.

From the Sacramento Union. We are hearing much these days of Russia's unselfish friendship for America. This unselfish friendship play used to be of France, because she helped the American colonies during the revolution; now it is of Russia, because she had a fleet with some sealed orders in New York harbor during the civil war. So firmly was the French friendship policy hugged by the American people that immediately after the revolution they almost rebelled against Washington himself when the first president determined that it should be the policy of America to keep free of the war then raging between France and England; to give France no support. Washington recognized, as every well-informed American of common sense recognizes, that France lent aid to America, not that she loved America more, but Great Lafayette fought for the Americans because of the principles involved. But the substantial aid that came from the government of Louis XVI was given because of the hatred of the French favorites for England.

Russia was neutral during the civil war. Because she approved the republican principle at stake? Hardly. She was neutral because there was nothing else for her to be—and because she, too, hated England, who, so far as she dared, was supporting the southern cause. Those mysterious sealed orders which were never unsealed may or may not have been instructions for the Russian fleet to join the squadron of the north in the event of France or England, or both, giving open assistance to the south. But whatever those orders contained, they did not represent the friendship for the American government now, nor for the principles which the American government represents, however Russia may wish it to so appear now.

As a matter of fact, no European nation has ever shown unselfish friendship for America. Friendly they have been to America in times of trial, it is true, but only that they might strike an indirect blow at an European rival.

Still Grumbling. From the Chicago Tribune. Perhaps we ought to be grateful to February for delaying the advent of March one day longer than usual this year.

Especially When May Doesn't Show. From the Chicago Tribune. Imagine what "administrative entities" would sound like when translated into Russian.

some of the things done by the departments, which the officials would rather not have done, were done under pressure from congressmen. These things have led to abuses in the public service and the departments have suffered from them. We have now heard a good deal about abuses that have arisen in the postoffice department through the initiative of the officials. If other abuses have arisen through the initiative of the congressmen all of the facts should come out. It will not raise the congressmen in the public estimation to confine themselves to mere denunciation. That will have no better effect than it did in the case of Senator Dietrich when he escaped trial on a technicality.

Let the matter be probed to the bottom and let those who have been engaged in queer practices stand forth unmasked.

"YOU GET ANYTHING YOU PAY FOR"—PRINCIPLE.

EVERYTHING is grist which comes to the Oregonian mill. In this morning's issue there appears a brief editorial paragraph to this effect: "Regular Republicans and Independent Republicans are advertising their own respective merits in the columns of this newspaper. It is due to the public to announce that such advertisements are paid for at full space rates, and that they can readily be distinguished from the true news articles by the appended name of each Republican contingent."

These articles have been appearing for a week. So far as the mass of the readers was concerned there was nothing about these articles to indicate that they were any more or any less than "true news articles." In the good old days of country journalism when a single weekly newspaper sufficed to fill the public needs it was the custom to sell to opposing political organizations certain columns of space in which to air their views. These columns were plainly marked for what they were and nobody was left in any doubt as to what they represented or of the further fact that the newspaper itself disclaimed all responsibility for the utterances therein contained. In the editorial or other columns of the paper the editor vigorously maintained his own views. This was journalism as it used to be and it may be said for it, considering its limitations, that it at least dealt honestly with its readers.

But here we have two factions of the Republican party pretty evenly balanced as to numbers. Each is trying its level best to win at the primaries and using every means in its power to achieve that end. The Oregonian declines to take sides with either one, which is within its province, but on the other hand with its thrifty eye on the bank account it writes a letter to each side telling it that great modern newspapers nowadays consider certain matters in their business offices and in the event that either the Mitchell or Simon faction has anything to say to the public through the columns of the Oregonian they may do so in their own way at the rate of 50 cents per line. Both factions take advantage of the offer and each day have used liberal space. So far as the mass of the readers were concerned, if they happened to see nothing but the last page of the Oregonian they would straightway believe that that newspaper was body and soul with the Mitchell faction. If they saw nothing but the page opposite the editorial page they would believe, on the other hand, that the paper had gone over to the Simon wing body, soul and breeches. Meantime the paper itself, still with its thrifty eye on the cash receipts, said nothing one way or the other editorially and its scanty references in the "news columns" were flaccid enough to set harmlessly on any political stomach, however irritable and exacting.

There is first the attempt to delude its own readers, which no newspaper should ever do at any price per line for advertising run in the guise of news matter. And then there is that further matter of self-respect which should have led the paper itself to have given perfectly fair and unbiased reports of the doings of both factions so that its readers might know precisely what was going on. Then there is the further fact that both factions being Republican if the paper itself could not fully fill the bill it might allot to each side certain definite space so that the public would be under no misapprehension as to its authorship and this should have been given to them freely and without charge. These are a few things that have struck the general public with considerable force and we fear that the money which the Oregonian will get out of the transaction will scarcely compensate it for the loss in prestige and dignity which will naturally follow.

Oregon Sidelights

Thinking it was his last change to make a raise, a man in Pendleton held the Last Chance saloon and secured \$25.

Great sensation in Hood River, according to a contemporary; a Portland attorney presented a bill for legal services.

Benton county granges are strongly in favor of a fine county exhibit at the Lewis and Clark fair. The farmers are generally right.

Single ladies beat married ladies at basket-ball at Joseph in spite of the popular notion that married ladies gain experience in throwing and dodging things.

Wallowa county will appropriate \$1,000 if citizens personally will subscribe as much for an exhibit at the Lewis and Clark fair. Wallowa is a fine county and should show herself.

The amount of freight shipped from Lebanon in 1903 exceeded that shipped in 1902 by 4,000,000 pounds, most of which were potatoes. The imports increased 1,000,000 pounds.

One man in The Dalles, H. S. Wilson, did not sit a good humor last Sunday. The fine four and other good things had ordered for a Sunday dinner were stolen during Saturday night, and he did not feel like giving thanks for his pickup, or restaurant, dinner.

Apparently a majority of the people of Montavilla desire to come within the city limits where they really belong. The change would probably be mutually advantageous, though some think otherwise. But it is a case where the majority taxpayers of the community affected should rule.

There is never any egg famine in Corvallis, according to a landlord of that town, who says: "Every other person in town brings eggs in for sale. Farmers, business and professional men all seem to keep a score or more of chickens. And they keep the kind that lay eggs, too. No little, puny ones that belong to a bantam, but large, clean, white eggs that we are always glad to get."

The president of the Irrigation Irrigation company has received the following letter, which shows that poverty as well as wealth may be come by honestly: "Mr. hold brook Deer sir, I am a married man I have a wife an six children which would be good for the world I want 5 akers I will have munny to pay after Harvest. I can work but cant pay munny. I am pore but I cum by it honest."

Indications are that there will be more activity in and about The Dalles this summer than in any other many years past. Several large buildings will probably be erected, street improvements and extension of water works will be made, work preparatory to building the canal and locks will be commenced, and so large sums of money will be expended for water works and among business men of that city.

Recently two \$20 pieces were found by boys in the Deschutes river at Bend and surrendered to Jim Overton, an eight such coins had been stolen from his residence by the boys. A neighbor, who found six other \$20 pieces in a barrel at her house, which were also turned over to Mr. Overton, so that he has now recovered \$120—all the gold stolen, but is still short \$80 in currency. The boy who had the coins in his pocket had had run in this disposing of the money of Oregon, unless their hebra be ascribed to the unprincipled on their native haunts of the Irrigation settlement, and the loud voices of the Irrigator.

A band of over 200 howling, yelping, fighting coyotes jumped into the Columbia river at Irion about daylight the other morning and swam to the Washington shore, three quarters of a mile distant, where they took a roll in the sand and scampered off toward the Horse Heaven country. Why the "critters" left Oregon for Washington in such a lively and mysterious manner, unless hebra be ascribed to the unprincipled on their native haunts of the Irrigation settlement, and the loud voices of the Irrigator.

VERY IMPORTANT MATTER.

Next Legislature Must Carefully Consider Needed Irrigation Law.

By Judge S. A. Lowell in East Oregonian. There are interests confronting the voters of Oregon more important than any party triumph or individual success.

I refer to the necessity of such revision of the laws of the state relating to the use of its waters as will meet the requirements of the federal government in its reclamation projects.

No greater responsibility ever rested upon a legislature of a western state than will rest upon that which assembles at Salem in January next. The enactment of a progressive and comprehensive irrigation act will unquestionably mean the immediate beginning of permanent government operations within our borders, which will not cease until millions of dollars have been expended, and desert places respond in abundant crops and happy farmers.

On the other hand, failure to legislate, or to legislate wisely, will mean delay of years in this work, which is to be the crowning glory of the century to aid America.

Give the engineers of the geological survey are already prosecuting their labors in this state, it is well understood that such work is preliminary in its character, and that nothing permanent or decisive will be done until there shall be effected radical amendments to our statutes.

A bill will be drawn by the very able irrigation commission appointed by the state law board, acting in collaboration with the experienced hydrographic engineers in the government service, but, however meritorious or necessary such measure may be, it will not become a law unless there be strong men in both branches of the legislature to urge and sustain it.

Many of the states in the arid belt have recently enacted new laws upon these subjects by substantially unanimous votes of their legislatures, but in this state, when varying conditions exist as to soil, climate and humidity, the desired result will probably be reached only by labor, compromise and diplomacy.

Given wise legislation, it now seems probable that the opening of another spring will witness in this county the government's first reclamation experiment in Oregon, and success here will be followed by like work in every other county and every other stream where water is available, and arid lands require its artificial application.

CHINA'S NEW CONFUCIUS.

Eliza R. Selidors in Chicago Tribune. Hongkong, Jan. 20.—Hongkong has a celebrity in residence here now to whom, by contrast, admirals, generals, dukes, lords, and baronets are of small degree. The modern sage, the modern Confucius, the most learned and intellectual man in China was widely known six years ago, is here again—Kang Yu Wei, the reformer and intimate friend of the emperor, Kwangsu of China, during the "one hundred days' reform" that precipitated the ruler's downfall.

Kang Yu Wei is a Cantonese by birth, a literary graduate and essayist of all the highest degrees, and in the country where learning is so esteemed and honored was considered the most learned of his name spread all over China, and while the empire rang with his greatness in intellect he was summoned to Peking, attached to one of the government boards, where his essays and memorials attracted and won the emperor's attention.

Although Kang Yu Wei had never been out of China, he was familiar with European history and literature through the translations that have been made of them, and he knew the theories of John Stuart Mill, of Herbert Spencer, and even Henry George, as well as any occupant of the chair of political economy in western universities. His memorials were received with great interest, and he was called to the board, and the young secretary of the official board, the modern Confucius, whom they so proudly boasted of, was brought in personal audience with the sovereign, and the mutual sympathy and attraction were complete. Then, for 100 days at Wan Shou Shan, the Hill of Ten Thousand Ages, in the summer palace grounds outside Peking, progress and reform found such favor as the maddest dreamer could never have dreamed. The most progressive and enlightened, and advanced of the older officials, those who, like Chang Yen Hoon, who had seen the outside world and foreign countries many times, and Li Hung Chang, who had seen it once, were left far behind in the new order of things.

This group of brilliant, patriotic, devoted, young souls dreamed of a new China, for the sake of which they had shed their lives, and they realized the sense of the pitiful condition of their country and the imperative need of reform if China hoped to retain her 18 provinces, Manchuria, and Magnolia, and continue to be the China, the great middle kingdom of the world.

The emperor dwelt on, discussed, and never grew tired of contemplating the example which Peter the Great had set for the sovereigns of backward and benighted nations. Fettered, lonely prince, he bravely, but in vain, struggled for this sort soiled, petticoated, helpless young ruler to have envied the rough giant who swung ship carpenter's hammers, lived and aroused with Dutch workmen and sailors, and, when returned to his native palace, swung an iron staff that the pale, scholarly Kwangsu could hardly lift.

India and Egypt, ruled by aliens, were terrible political warnings to him; and the story of Poland, torn and alive and divided among the powers, was always present in his thoughts. So the young enthusiast, fired with a zeal that transformed the pale and languid, cultivated, and superintending young sovereign into a restless, strenuous, eager prince, he bravely, but in vain, struggled for this sort soiled, petticoated, helpless young ruler to have envied the rough giant who swung ship carpenter's hammers, lived and aroused with Dutch workmen and sailors, and, when returned to his native palace, swung an iron staff that the pale, scholarly Kwangsu could hardly lift.

Education was the first thing the emperor turned to, for, in all the good advice given to him, through the example of Japan in spreading western education freely to all parts of the empire was unceasingly dwelt upon. The young emperor ordered schools to be opened in every village, temples to be turned over to the purpose, and the best teachers to be sent abroad, and all Chinese who had studied in foreign countries were to be availed of to help on the work of enlightenment.

The old conservatives, from Peking to the remotest provinces, shook their heads, wondered and waited, not knowing where the thunderbolt of an imperial edict would land next. It was when the emperor began lopping off the incompetent dropping unnecessary officials, that the old conservatives, who were when he proposed to go to Peking by railway train and review the vaunted army of the northern viceroy construction became real. It was but a next step for him to propose to his supporters that general conscription should be declared, and the emperor's conservative cabal that were interfering with, opposing, and hindering all the reform measures; but when the plan was revealed the loyal ones promptly marched to the emperor's side and the thunderbolt fell.

MORE JAPANESE DISCOUNTS.

From the New York World. The progress of events in the far east lends additional point to Russia's allegations of conscription for a foe, the Oriental foe. Scratch the thin veneer of Japanese civilization and beneath the surface you find an inherent rudeness which a half a century of contact with the refining influence of Occidental customs has served only to conceal without modifying, and which puts the Russian more regardless of the etiquette of warfare, hopelessly at a disadvantage.

The act of beginning hostilities before making a formal declaration of war, the use of the enemy's signals, contrary to the convention for a foe, the stealthy launching of torpedoes in the dark, the bottling up of helpless cruisers, the disposition to sink a hostile vessel wherever seen, the use of neutral Korea as a base—all this indicates a departure from the practices of polite warfare, and which puts the Russian more regardless of the etiquette of warfare, hopelessly at a disadvantage.

The rest of the world is watching with amazement the activity and readiness of the Japanese. The little island kingdom is teaching other nations one of the most interesting lessons known to history. What will be the outcome of the encounters on land? Will brains be a match for the heavier battalions?

ON HAND IN THE MORNING.

From the Baseline Sentinel. The Astoria divorce business is looking up. A woman was sued for divorcing her husband, who alleged cruel and inhuman treatment by reason of her staying out nights. In her answer she stated that no matter how late she stayed out she was always home in time for breakfast.

When Harmony Will Prevail.

From the Washington Post. Mr. Bryan declares that he does not care for the state of Kansas, but that the Kansas City platform must be reaffirmed. If that is done no one else will care about the candidate either.

When the emperor realized the situation he first sent messengers to warn and to insist upon Kang Yu Wei's leaving Peking at once and seeking safety in foreign Shanghai. The modern Confucius lingered to send messages, but finally hurried west along the Great Wall to Tientsin and Shanghai. His boat was to receive and assist them on to safety in Hongkong. The six other young reformers, dreamers of the hundred days' dream of reform, were beheaded, some of viceroys and high officials, the most able and promising of all the court following.

One martyr died protesting his love of country in terms to convince one of a word for patriotism would soon have been coined or compounded for the Chinese language. He declared that his death would bear fruit and his martyrdom help on the cause in the end. Believing his friends safe, the emperor then attempted to leave the palace, intending to fly as usual to the nearest foreign legation until he could assemble other troops around him for his protection. Accompanied by his most faithful eunuch he passed through court after court of the palace grounds and had reached the bridge beyond which was the last gate and a safe escape, when a body of eunuchs overtook him, dragged away his attendant, and hurried him back to the presence of the empress dowager.

For months afterward the emperor did not leave the little palace by the southern sea, at the lower end of the great lake, in the western gardens, adjoining the forbidden city of Peking. The little palace is a gem of Chinese architecture and decoration, and rises from a terrace platform bordered with pavilions and kiosks overhanging the water. A bridge, a flat platform that could be raised at will, connected it with the outer court of the winter palace, the residence of the empress dowager.

When this sad little Tianon by the southern sea was shown me, the rooms had been stripped of every portable, detachable, packable article, and the German officers, who were playing tennis in the inside court, were using the tennis boxes and boxes when they dined on common tables brought in from any humble barracks.

There and at the summer palace the emperor passed his life in apathy, restlessness, and melancholy, some time to study and reading and amusing himself with pet animals. Four eunuchs, who were most attached to him, were withdrawn, three beheaded, and one sent to exile, and ever since his attendants are changed every other day. The empress dowager, no companions, alone in the crowd of courtiers, princes, eunuchs, and women—an idle, silly, teasing boy, says one person; a sad faced, broken hearted prisoner, says another; while others, who are sure that his reason has failed, and others that he is playing a part, biding his time, and trusting no one. Who can he trust? Who can he appeal to? How can he be heard, and what can he do?

When the modern Confucius had fled to Hongkong it took all the energy of the colonial police to protect him, and he was sent to Singapore for safe keeping. It taxed the Straits authorities, and, as rewards for his head were offered, and the price rose to hundreds of thousands of taels, Singapore began to fill up with highlanders and ruffians and secret political agents from China.

While there Kang Yu Wei was the idol of the great group of enlightened Chinese, and he was in Singapore for a long time. He had English education in the Belknap University and Medical school, and enjoys a large practice in Singapore, Kang Yu Wei talked his views at length. They were written out in English and printed in a Singapore newspaper, and while de-layed more for a steamer connection three years ago a scrap book volume of these letters of the refugee was let me to read. They were admirable essays, but they did not betray any practical statesmanship; did not lead to or argue for any definite end.

Kang Yu Wei had then been spirited away, and none knew his hiding place, save his nearest friends and the worried British officials. In driving about Peking a week later I was shown the old headquarters residence by the parade ground, where Kang Yu Wei was held down by a Sepoy sentry pacing up and down before the gate, another guard visible within.

"How can the world did you learn he was here?" asked a colonial official when, just for the sake of conversation, he was asked to lend an interpreter to go with us to see the modern Confucius.

"No, I couldn't do that. In fact, I don't know that such a person lives here," said the cautious one; and then, "caution to the winds—but if you see him, do let me know what Confucius has to say."

The sage was not seen by any casual tourist idling about Penang.

SOME JAPANESE PROVERBS.

Good wine brings out the truth. The error of a minute, the sorrow of a lifetime. After having tasted bitterness one becomes a man. It is easier to find 1,000 recruits than one general. The life of an old man is like a lighted candle in a draft. It is more difficult to keep a fortune than to make one. The capital and the freeds have each their own attractions. Before we can sympathize with others we must have suffered ourselves. Do not be slaves to your children. They will have their hands on you. The wise man shapes himself according to circumstances, as water takes the shape of the vessel into which it is poured.

IN LENT.

From the Catholic Standard. The far in Lent should be fasteners. For one short season in the year. May we not keep our craving down for palate-tickling food and frown upon our lust for goody cheer?

Good men eschew their wins or beer And mortify their bodies here. That sweet eternal joy may crown The fare in Lent.

But woman, whom we hold most dear, Will not to good advice give ear. For everywhere, abroad, in town, The plans for Easter hat and gown Are interesting most, we fear, The fair in Lent.

Atoning for an Oversight. From the Chicago Tribune. "No, sir," said Alderman Eoodell, the eminent statesman from the 'Steenth ward, to the constituent who was trying to secure exemption from the provisions of the sidewalk ordinance. "I don't see how I should do anything for you, sir. You had better pay your tax."

Apologizing for his forgetfulness, the constituent pulled out his check book.

Small Change

A Rooseveltian administration seems to be about as expensive as a war.

The lingers won in Seattle Tuesday—Ballinger for mayor and Ripinger for controller.

However the war goes, there seems to be little but trouble ahead for John Chinaman.

It looks as if those other apostles had it on for Smoot—perhaps because of his monogamous life.

When campaign money can be secured from both sides, the Oregonian has no opinion to express.

The Democratic candidate for president has usually been selected over the opposition of Tammany.

It is quite proper for President Smith to be at the head of a department store, as well as of other things.

The Pendleton Tribune says the Republican party is "a party of deeds." It is, alas, and not repentant.

New York Democrats expect to carry that state next fall—until they begin discussing the Democratic candidate for president.

The senate public lands committee is "all split up" on the question of reform of the land laws. In fact, the committee has a rocky road to travel in congress.

A Kentucky man has named his four boys Grover Cleveland, William J. Bryan, Mark Hanna and Theodore Roosevelt. He must be determined on having harmony in his family.

If the Democrats could size up in Multnomah county with the Republicans in the election as they do numerically in the respective conventions, they would easily bury both factions.

Mr. Cleveland insists that he wants to be left alone, in absolute retirement, and complains that this wish is not respected; yet he persists in writing letters of advice for publication quite frequently.

Mr. Springer, for several years president of the American Livestock association, has been sprung by some of his many admirers as a candidate for vice-president. They think he would run like a scared steer.

What was needed at Springfield, O. Tuesday was a sheriff and other officials with both will and courage to keep their oaths of office and do their duty. In one out of many cases a man of this sort comes to the front.

The Atlanta Journal thinks that "the first-class man in every other respect." But in this "he" does not follow that a third-class politician is a first-class man in other respects.

Judging from remarks or queries occasionally made, it seems that there are people who actually suppose that gambling slot machines are not in operation in this city. Perhaps even some of the city officials are thus credulous.

Divorced persons who desire to marry again will not worry much over the resolution of some ministers not to marry them. A small fee will buy a minister's performance of the desired ceremony, without questions as to previous marriage or divorce being asked.

With distressing regrets, Senator Fairbanks will consent to run for vice-president—on condition that the administration support him for the presidential nomination in 1908. But by 1908 the people may prefer a president of quite different type from that so well represented in the Indiana senator.

THE ONE THING MOST NEEDED.

From the Century.

It is natural, wholesome, saving conscientiousness, applied to all the relations and emergencies of private and public life, that is so sadly wanting in many American communities—a conscientiousness which results in something like that system of honor which distinguishes the student life of Virginia, and which, Virginians are apt to maintain, has perceptibly and beneficially affected the tone of business and other affairs of the state.

Right unscrupulousness marks the knave; a partial lack of scruple characterizes the large numbers of boards, as merchants, as taxpayers, as politicians, as voters, wink at evil practices in others, but themselves are trying to stay official wrong, and themselves are caught and not too conspicuous irregularities, or give support for selfish reasons to venal candidates for office. Such "respectables" are the despair of the patriotic one, in our day and in a thousand communities—backed by the tide of that political corruption which, according to some good friends of America as John Morley, "for the moment obscures the great democratic experiment."

It comes to this, that "the period of corruption" which friends of Americans abroad are called upon so often to apologize for—a corruption which, while bad enough, is not so deeply rooted as our enemies believe—can be brought to an end only by the growth of a sense of honor or scrupulousness, backed by moral bravery, upon the part of individuals in the republic. It is not fantastic to aver that a gift of imagination would assist some people to be virtuous. If a citizen should feel that his own lack of scruple, in any direction, was a boon of corruption, and that his personal withholding of temptation to do wrong was not only an act of private virtue, but had patriotic uses as well—if he were convinced, for instance, that his refusal to vote as a trustee for a contribution to a bribery fund or to a dishonest boss was a means of doing away with a national disgrace—if he had the imagination to grasp the large bearings of his individual action, it would be easier for him to take a stand for righteousness instead of weakly acquiescing in some customary wrong. Aristotle's idea of the state was association "in a life of felicity and nobleness"; but Christianity ought not to have any less to say for the making of good citizenship and the dealing of a righteous people.