# Editorial Page of The Journal

## THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

#### LEGISLATORS AND CHARTER BOARDS.

T IS ENTIRELY TRUE that a period has been put to the official existence of the charter board. The body of men who drew the charter, who unselfishly gave of their time during long months in perfecting it, who had good reason to believe from the overwhelming expression of popular approval which ratified it that their work was well and honestly done, immediately that work was done passed out of official existence. All this is true and the members-elect of the legislature from Multnomah county have made no mistake in this assumption. But the fact remains that they are still men of substance and character in this community, that they have a heavy stake in its present and future and what they have done, as well as what they stand for, entitles them to some little degree of consideration even at the hands of those who have been chosen to represent the county in the coming session of the

It should not be forgotten that so far as this city concerned, the charter is the organic law. It has been drawn with great care and as a whole represents the highest type of its class yet achieved by an American community. Experience and trial may show, perhaps have already shown, some minor defects which require remedy. These should come but extreme care should be taken that under the guise of remedying minor defects some change should not be surreptitiously made which will fatally affect the value of the whole charter.

All students are agreed that the greatest danger to our institutions, particularly our municipalities, is the lack of unselfish interest shown in their affairs by the citizens. For selfish reasons the political machines are aiways on the alert to maintain themselves and for the same reason those who exploit the public are always keenly alive to what is going on and sharply determined to maintain an undue advantage. Fortunately, therefore, is the community in which a body of influential citizens strives to uphold the general good. In their work we placed find one of our surest safeguards, a possible barrier to the incursions, insidious and otherwise, of those who seek special privileges at the expense of the mass of community. The members-elect of the legislature, we regret to see, have put themselves on record as delining advice or suggestions. They may be determined to do no more than the people would ask them to do and to safeguard the charter as the charter board itself would do, but unfortunately this is not the impression which the public will get from their conduct. If sus-picion has been aroused, if body has been given to the umors that a conspiracy is on foot to nullify the vital features of the charter, surely the members-elect of the legislatures are themselves to blame for it. All of this makes doubly important the suggestion that whatever amendments may be proposed by the legislature should must be submitted to the people of Portland for lication. There is no amendment, however simple on its face, which should not be discussed in all its bear ings in open day; that is the public's only protection and the members of the legislature from this county are to be thanked for having taught it that lesson.

The most serious amendment now proposed to the charter is one which would thrust the fire department into politics. Is that something which the people of Portland desire? There will be a final meeting of the charter board next Thursday evening. That meeting should be largely attended by voters whether or not they were members of the original charter board. A strong and representative body of citizens should go on record as opposed to any such crooked changes and the meeting which gives forth that expression should be a rousing one from every point of view. Good government now means more to Portland than ever before and we are assured and that is by the people themselves taking a lively interest in the subject and making it plain that the subject and making it plain that much closer to attaining it. In one way only can it be thing short of it.

### AS MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED.

TT IS REPORTED that the Malheur irrigation project may be defeated by the refusal of the Willamette Valley & Cascades Mountains Wagon Road company to accept the government's proposition and pay its due proportion of the cost of the necessary reservoirs, ditches, etc., amounting, it is stated, to about

This would mean a large contribution by this corporation, but when it is certain that lands now worthsmall land holders will pay all of the cost.

This is the usual and expected course of such a concern as the W. V. & C. M. Wagon Road company. Having grafted the government out of an immense area of land, much of it very valuable, it is quite in line with its fice. nature to refuse to expend anything to help improve and chief beneficiary, so long as there is the least chance that other people, co-operating with the government,

This corporation is in a poor position to make such sitions. a refusal, with even a surface show of grace. It secured a vast tract of the people's land, alternate sections in a wide strip clear from the Willamette valley to the east-the right kind of a man to fill the office. But if we are light and so enclosed it in his value, and thus shut off enough light so he wide strip clear from the Willamette valley to the east-ern state line, in consideration of which it was to build going to elect a catspaw thrust upon the people by a sould sleep.

Some little work at road building was done, just enough to make a showing, and an excuse for the officials who were giving away the people's domain by millions of acres, but as everybody knows the people got almost nothing for that great body of land.

This tract was not all desert land; much of it covered with fine timber, much of it was excellent bunchgrass range; it crossed many streams with valuable water privileges; 'it was a magnificent gift of a reckless and corrupt government to people who had done nothing for the people to earn such a grant, and who have done very little since to compensate the people for the gift of that territory.

But, as might have been expected, it is not poor John Smith, with his little 160 acres of arid land over in the valley of the Malheur; it is not Jim Jones, who can barely make a living off his too-dry land, and hopes with water to be able to make a living for his family; t is not these worthy, toiling, home-building, statebuilding settlers who object to paying the cost of this great work, that shall turn a desert into meadows, orhards and gardens-no, it is the W. V. & C. M. Wagon Road company, to which our gracious and beneficent government many years ago made a present of a few nillion acres of land. But, like the horse-leech, its cry

And yet there are apparently intelligent people who know about these great land grabs and landgrabbing grafts, and who read of the insolence of such corporate beneficiaries of official rascality, and yet who wonder at the growth of socialism-at the growing demand that the whole people shall take back their own, the land.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S OPPORTUNITY.

RESIDENT ROOSEVELT is now master of the situation and to a great degree of his own destiny. No man was ever more fortunately to dominate a condition. He was elected not be cause but in spite of the support of the protected classes; ne gets his commission directly from the people. He is face to face with one overshadowing demand; it is for relief. The tariff robbery will not be thrust into the background; that is the greatest of all questions which confront the American people.

It is not expected of the president that he will do nything during the term of office for which President McKinley was elected. Congress is ready to begin its are going to make a fine exhibit, surely McKinley was elected. Congress is a vest amount of routine no county of Oregon can afford to be short session now and there is a vast amount of routine work to be done. From no point of view would it be vise to complicate the ordinary program. But before that session closes he should make it clear to the country that he proposes to call a special session immediately upon adjournment for the exclusive consideration of the tariff question. His own attitude with relation to the matter should be made perfectly clear; a ringing address

from him would electrify the country. That special session should then give genuine relief, not the false pretense of it. If the relief comes there will be no doubt of the place which the president will secure in history and even less of the unchallenged place which will be his in the affections of the people. But it is by his action on the tariff question that he will be judged. If he is brave, courageous and intelligent in that direction, most other things will be forgiven him. If there is no special session, if there is no genuine movement in the direction of tariff reform, if the president falls short of the high estimate which the people have manifestly placed upon him, then the matter will be taken out of his hands. While it will be impossible two years hence to reach the senate the opposition will carry the house and there will be such a revulsion of

President Roosevelt has before him the opportunity It is for him to say not only what he will do, but to fix his own rating with the people who have so signally

feeling that salt will not save the presidency or the

### SALARY OF CITY ENGINEER.

HE JOURNAL is inclined to look with leniency on the proposition to increase the salary of the city engineer. A man fit for that position who can earn in private life more than the present salary, and the city needs a first-rate man. A great deal of important work, for which he is responsible, for bany owned his home piece of which no one else can be responsible, to the people; is It perhaps thinks the work will be done anyway, and it will come in for its big share of the benefits, while the thoroughly conscientious inflexibly honest non alliest the park improvement fund.

An Ashland spinsters' entertainment cleared over \$100 for the Chautauque park improvement fund. being done; a great deal more such work is to be done thoroughly conscientious inflexibly honest, non-political expert. Such men come high. They don't dirty their expert. Such men come high. They don't dirty their fingers shaking hands with political Toms, Dicks and Harrys. They wouldn't cross the street to speak to a professional politician for the control of the control of Port Orford grew at a two-Forty gait one night recently. Twins were born to Mr. and Mrs. George professional politician for the control of the control professional politician for the purpose of getting an of-

The men fit for this position are rather rare, but they build up the country, even though it will itself be the are to be found. And they must be well paid, or they will not take the office. A multitude of cheap-John men will jump at any office, at any salary, but the city can't afford to elect or employ such men in such po

and maintain a fine wagon road through that region. It political machine, then the salary had better be cut down got the land; the department and the courts have held to a common laborer's wages. Sixty dollars a month that it was entitled to the land; but the road-well, per-haps that will be built some time by the state convicts. politicians might give us.

### NOW TO STORE ENOWLEDGE.

(By Dr. H. Pye-Smith.) From the New York Herald. Learn to use your senses, be quick lice any changes in the house you live or in the clouds and sky, open your to sights of birds and insects as you walk, your ears to their songs, and your heart and intellect to the impressions of well as hear, touch as well as feel. Pra tice judging distances and making allow-ance for different kinds of illumination, learn to detect the optical and sensory fallacies of which you read in books on mental physiology. Exercise not only muscles, but your power of dis-criminating weights, Cultivate walking and make it a pleasure as well as a con-venience. Take every opportunity of learning any bodily exercise, whether without being artists, to draw sufficiently to explain your meaning. Never wants time over worthless literature, and in order to be sure of what is good read thiefly that which has withstood decorately winnowed and approved result of the imagination, the windom and the wit of past centuries. Beware of prejudices, prejudices of your education, prejudices of this wonderful instrument.

of your country. Remember that all that you think of England, and which you rightly ought to think, is also thought by French and Germans and Americans and Hungarians and Chinese strength of its inhabitants, the beauty of its women, the courage of its soldiers, and its excellence in all the arts and re-finements of life.

### THE LONGEST TALK.

From "Stories of Inventors," by Russell

In Omaha, Neb., half way across the continent, and about 40 hours from Bos es, but your power of distanting weights. Cultivate walking ake it a pleasure as well as a continent, and about 40 hours from Boston by fast train, a man sits comfortably in his office chair, and with no more exertion than is required to lift a portage any bodily exercise, whether or swimming, rowing or sailing, hatever you do do it, as Fox said, "with all your resources at the Learn, as you may very well at being artists, to draw suffer to explain your meaning. Never time over worthless literature, and about 40 hours from Boston by fast train, a man sits comfortably in his office chair, and with no more exertion than is required to lift a portage day to his representative in the chief New England city. The man in Boston hears his chief's voice and can recognize the peculiarities in it just as if he stood in the same room with him. The man in Nebraska, speaking in an orditime over worthless literature, and

### "GAS" ADDIGES.

From the Chicago Tribune.
The tidal wave of Tuesday which swept so many good men into office the United States senate that noxious creature, "Gas" Addicks—J. Edward O'Sullivan Addicks of Delaware. It will be a bitter drop in the cup of victory if that man, who for about ten years has been systematically debauching the citizens of Delaware and transforming them into a herd of voting cattle, should at last succeed in buying his way into the senate. If he can do that after being fought off so many times by these Republicans who could not bear to see their state dishonored, it will be a proof that perseverance and a pocketbook can do almost anything. If Addicks finally has forced his way into the senate over the dead body of Delaware's honesty, he should be greeted in Washington with such political and social ostracism as to make the day of his triumph far bitterer than the day of his greatest defeat ever was. if that man, who for about ten years

his triumph far bitterer than the day of his greatest defeat ever was.

The cause of nonesty and good government gained ground in the middle west last Tuesday and lost in Deiaware. Roosevelt has so many electoral votes to spare that it is a pity he didn't lose those of Delaware, so that Addicks might have been baffied again.

### Small Change

Beef, pork, mutton, veal-no turkey. It looks like rather a hard winter for

Seven-'leven township is getting

So long as Judge Parker keeps out he magazines, we wish him success

Chairman Taggart says it is too to talk polities, and probably he is Most people do not live by politics

Dowle orders his male followers to go unshaven. If he is so all-powerful, why not have his women followers wear

The president says he as a friend of the south, but Charleston won't believe it so long as he keeps that big dark Crum in his shoe, Several fires at the St. Louis fair give the Lewis and Clark fair managers a hint to take every possible precaution against like disasters.

Still, it is to be feared that the preposed re-reorganisation of the Den cratic party will not be acceptable Mr. Grover Cleveland.

Rockefeller's Standard Oil dividends will be only fourteen and a half million dollars this year—three millions less than last year. How the poor man must

The personnel of the present Massa-chusetts legislature is largely the same as the last, the one that Lewson so scathingly scored as an aggregation of boodiers. Evidently Douglas will earn his salary.

An election in Denver without a pro

Bellingham citizens are showing the right spirit in determining to have an exhibit at the Portland fair.—Puget Sound American. When communities away over in northwestern Washington

### Oregon Sidelights

Cornelius is anticipating a new hote

Young women of Coquille as

The Alsea cannery packed 9,500 of fine salmon.

A turkey one year old, shipped from

In a week the country will have con

Some Coos county people are agitatir

It will do boys no harm to believe a

Two Myrtle Point residents are and 90 years old respectively.

A basket social at Tualatin netted \$4 which will be used in buying books. The late Abraham Hackleman of Al-

Twenty lots in Cornelius were sold to different parties last week, indicating that considerable building will be done there next year.

We forget whether this is the day for Port Arthur to be in a toppling condition or standing firm and proof against all assaults. It's one or the other.

North Bend Post: Coos bay is fast gaining fayor with ship owners as a safe harbor and one where there is something worth coming after and plenty of it. Next summer the ships will be so thick in our harbor that they can scarcely turn around in safety, and they will be carrying our produce to all parts of the world and rushing back laden with passengers seeking good homes and safe investments.

### Tennie Claflin Crusading

new party—open the campaign? was asked.

"I have had an agent looking since my arrival for suitable quarters," said Lady Cook. "I want a large room in the central business part of the city—a room to accommodate between 500 and 800 people. It must have the simplicity and dignity of a court chamber—a place for business, not a lounging room for women to run into to put high light on their noses or readjust hats to the latest tilt. None of that! I find American women behind English women in many respects. In politics, for instance, they have neither the intelligence nor the influence of English women. Then, they are more given to the frivolities of dress and society. On the other hand, dress and society. On the other hand, I find less tippling and smoking among American women than among English women of the higher classes." With headquarters secured,

This was a question not to be handled with gloves. From a background of silk pillows, Lady Cook rose. Off came the white glace gloves.

"The banner of the new party will be flung across the highway,", she cried, "emblazoned with the name of whatever woman may be chosen for candidate for president of the United States."

It is 32 years since Victoria C. Woo ical almanacs have not deemed it nec-essary to record the number of votes cast for the sisters. Lady Cook has a vivid recollection as well as a pictorial record of those stormy days, when the mob unharnessed her horse, after an Irving Place meeting, and drove her home to the famous Thirty-eighth street residence. She has no ambition to be the new party's candidate. Indeed, she would not accapt it, if like Caesar's crown, it were thrice offered to her-offered on a silver salver or roll of Standard Oll securities! Tennie has her own barrei, thanks, and she means to empty it in the cause.

own barret, thanks, and she means to empty it in the cause.
"If only I were stronger," sighed Lady Cook. "I must husband my strength to speak in the campaign. I shall speak here and at Chicago on the floor of the stock exchange. Arrangements are now being made."

Rorth Bend Post: Coos bay is fast gaining fayor with ship owners as a safe harbor and one where there is something worth coming after and plenty of it. Next summer the ships will be so thick in our harbor that they can scarcely turn around in safety, and they will be carrying our produce to all parts of the world and rushing back laden with passengers seeking good homes and safe investments.

While the acreage of Grand Ronde investments.

While

### The Play

good at the Columbia theatre last even-ing, when the stock company presented.
"The New Dominion," a charming com-edy, which Clay Clement wrote for him-self, with the lovable botanist, Baron Hohenstauffen, as the central character. Here we have a perfect love affair. The student of the green side of Na-

with a stock of turquolse velvet in which was fantened a diamond brooch. English fashion, she wore white glace, led gloves throughout the intervise kid gloves through the intervise kid gloves the intervise kid gloves through the

And William Dflis came into the cast again, after his illness, as "Uncle Poly." the philosophical old colored servant. His performance was the nearest approach to greatness we have seen him make—and that is saying a good deal. A veritable evation was tendered the young man as he stepped onto the stage and that is the best proof of an actor's ability. It will shock some of you matinee girls, perhaps, to know that Donald Bowies plays the villain, and a very bad villain, too, is Marshall Boner. But console yourselves with the knowledge that he does it capitally. Miss Countiss is "way out of line in a part that rightly belongs to the investment of the properties of the degree of tobacco which begets thirst for alcohol, a thrallom from which there is no escape except through total abstinence.

These enemies to mind and body are responsible for the appalling tragedles which are daily recorded. They bring a long line of wretchedness to counties of nature to the criminals who are constantly before the bars of justice. The larger number are men and boys, but far too often women and girls have to be arraigned for misdemeanors and crimes perpetrated because of their degeneracy from the use of tobacco and part that rightly belongs to the in-genue. She neither looks, acts nor even suggests the winsome Flora May. Short - skirted, suburban sweetheart parts are not for this actress, and doubt-less she realized it last night as fully as the audience.

Mr. Bloomquest and Miss Brandt are

once more delightful as young lovers. Laurette Allen gives Mrs. Randolph very artistically, and George Berrell was satisfactory in his denunciation satisfactory in his denunciation. RACE WHITNEY.

### THE WEED OF PRES SCHOOLS.

Dr. Charles W. Dabney, one of the leading educators of the south and west, believes in the public school. Free school, he says, is necessary for a free government. In his inaugural address as president of the University of Cin-

as president of the University of Cin-cinnati, Dr. Dabney said:

"Let us cast out of our minds all half-hearted arguments for the free ed-ucation of all the people. It is true that it pays a community to educate all its youth, but the public school is not a charity institution. Schoolhouses and schoolmasters are cheaper than jalls and schoolmasters but we do not found the public schoolmasters are cheaper than jalls and soldiers; but we do not found the public school upon any such ground as this. Such arguments for free schools are little less than an insult to a free people. The true democracy is something nobler than a policeman guarding and protecting our property and our rights, The democracy establishes its public schools to train new citizens and to fit them for self-government, and when it shall have done its full duty in this respect there will be no need of policemen and soldiers.

"A democracy spending hundreds of millions for warships and forts, for armies and navies, is enough to give devils joy. If we spent one fourth of this treasure in schools and missions, the whole world would soon be ours in bonds of love, and there would be no need of these engines of death and destruction.

need of these engines of death and uestruction.

"Men have, indeed, a right to govern themselves, but without education men have not the capacity. Suffrage is not a natural right, but a privilege assigned to those who qualify themselves for its proper exercise in accordance with a standard fixed by the state. Democracy means self-government; self-government necessitates universal sducation, and universal education can only be accomplished by free public schools under the control of all the people."

### TATOORD MAN DIES AT SISSON.

From the Sisson Headlight.

Moses Chanjyou, known as the tatooed man, and a French Canadian by birth, died alone in a little cabin in the outskirts of Sisson tast week. The body was tatooed in vari-colored ink from the neck to the toes. The bust pictures of poless than eight women were to be seen on different parts of the body, besides birds of beautiful plumage, butterflies, frogs, flah, flags, anchors, wreaths of flowers, chains and many ingenious devices known only to sailors, his name, date of his birth and that of his wife, it is supposed, date of his marriage and his home. The date of his marriage and his home of his marriage and his home. The date of his marriage and his home of his marriage and his home of his marriage and his home. The date of his marriage and his home of his marriage and his home of his marriage and his home. The date of his marriage and his home of his marriage and his home. The date of his marriage and his home of his his home of his his home. The date of his his home his home of his his From the Sisson Headlight.

### The Increase in Suicides

licohol.

It matters little whether habits of disto body and soul. In the list of bridal and anniversary presents one often no-tices that Mr. or Miss Bo-and-Bo gave beautiful cigarette cases, decanters and liquor sets to the bride, bridegroom, or to husband, brother, parent or friend— strange selections if one desires to exert influence in favor of sobriety and moral-

One who desires to be healthy, wealthy and wise should adopt the motto—touch not, handle not, taste not to-bacco or alcoholic liquors.

### Journal of Lewis and Clark

November 28—About 8 o'clock last evening it commenced to snow and continued till daybreak, after which it ceased till 7 o'clock, but then resumed and continued during the day, the weather being cold and the river full of floating ice. About 8 o'clock Poscopcahe came down to visit us with some warriors. We gave them presents and entertained them with all that might amuse their curiosity, and at parting we told them that we had heard of the British trader, Mr. Laroche, having attempted to distribute medals and flags among them, but that those emblems could not be received from any other than the American nation without incurring the displeasure of their great father, the president. They left us much pleased with their treatment. The river fell one inch today. November 28-About 8 o'clock last ev-

Annie Payson Call, in Leslie's Monthly
Magazine for December.

If we ourselves loved a truthful,
quiet way of living better than any
other way, how would we feel to see
our friends preparing to celebrate our
birthday with strain, anxiety and confusion? If we valued a loving consideration for others more than anything
else in the world, how would it affect
us to see our friends preparing for the

"Who gives himself with his gitt reeds
three—
Himself, his hungry neighbor and Me."
That spirit should be in every Christmas gift throughout Christendom. The
most thoughtless man or woman would
recognise the truth, if they could look
at it quietly, with due regard for the
real meaning of the day. But, after
having heard and assented to the truth,
the thoughtless people would, from
force of habit, go on with the same
rush and strain.