Editorial Page of The Journal

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

DIRECT ELECTION OF SENATORS.

THE NEW SYSTEM of conducting nominations for office in Oregon should reach far enough to for office in Oregon should reach far enough to insure the nomination of United States senators by the people, and the ratification of their choice by the legislature. Senatorial contests in legislatures are in themselves an evil, and are the source of much evil in legislation. These have become so frequent and apparent that they are generally recognized and acknowledged. It may be that better men for senators would not in variably be selected. Very often the same man would be chosen by either system. But the senators should be chosen by the people, and be directly responsible to them, rather than elected by the legislatures, and personally responsible, as many of them think, to their members.

This change cannot be effected directly except by ar amendment to the constitution of the United States adopted by the people or the legislatures of three fourths of the states. Such a change is hopeless, because congress, of which the senate is a constituent part, will not propose such an amendment to the people, and the legislatures of most states do not wish to lose this prerogative. But the change can be effected through direct primaries, for few legislatures will dare to despise or ignore a mandate of the people. Once the custom of electing senators in this way is established, it will not be

Several of the southern states now elect their senators in this way, and the duty and action of the legislatures are merely perfunctory, like that of the electoral college in electing a president, and politics aside the personnel of senators so elected is higher in character and fitness than that of senators from other parts of the country where the primary system of choice is not in vogue. Il linois has on occasion influenced a legislature in this way, and Minnesota is moving in that direction.

Let all voters of the dominant party in a state name the senators at primary elections—which is preferable to convention nominations—and insist that the legisla-tures shall ratify their choice. The result would be in some important respects beneficial.

GREAT COST OF GOVERNMENT.

AXPAYERS OVERBURDENED; expenses in creasing; government facing a big deficit. This is the story that comes from nearly all the European nations, and it is one of which there are hints and even in this country of unparalleled wealth

Just now it is in the German reischtag where the loud est complaints are being made. In spite of increased taxes, there is a big deficit in the government treasury, and several elements of the national parliament are re g against the budget submitted by the government and demanding instead a change of methods.

The money goes largely to maintain a great standing army, which is the emperor's chief pride, to increase the Rin a very expensive system of royalty and nobility

If the nations of the world could agree on permanent peace the army could for the most part be disbanded, and the outlay for a constantly increasing navy need not be made; and under a different system of government the immense cost of royalty could be avoided.

But these big and expensive toys must be maintained Only the extreme reformers propose any change that will result in much benefit to the people. And in the United States, where we are not burdened with royalty and nobility, the cost of government is becoming enornous, even for such a great and prosperous country.

Looking the world over, one may not unreasonably entertain some doubts whether civilized government pays the masses of people for its maintenance; whether it is not a farce in which they act the role of fools.

A ROOSEVELTIAN MESSAGE.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE is characteristicmoral lecturing or preaching it contains, and this, provided, and many new rooms for common school while excusable, if not commendable, is not likely to be children. productive of reformatory results because congress is Nothing will again excuse neglect in this matter.

certain not to heed such instruction, and relatively few except editors and political economists, and here and there a man with nothing to do, reads a message of

There crops out also between the lines another Rooseveltian trait; he not only knows everything that is true and right, politically, morally and socially, but always does it, never making an error or committing

Some extreme partisans will be surprised and dis-appointed at the admission that the country's prosperity is partly due to its natural resources and advantages; but they will be somewhat consoled by the statement that it is also due in part to "our long-continued governmental policies," including high protection of favored classes and the subjection and control of far distant islands.

For the rest, the message mentions, in many instances at much length, almost every conceivable governmental subject. Its recommendations are in the main good, though there is a savour of executive egotism and infallibility in them as a whole. The document is noticeable not only for its expansion into comparatively unimportant details, but for its omission to say anything about the principal question now being discussed by the people—the tariff. But it is rumored that this is to be the subject of a later and special message.

One thing is sure from even glancing over the mes sage; the president likes to talk, and to write, to express his views and opinions on everything. Voluminous as the message is, there is no danger of an accusation that the president hired some one to produce it. It is manifestly his and when all is said and done any document bearing the stamp of his personality is well worth reading.

TRIALS COST TOO MUCH.

THE TRIAL of Nan Patterson will cost the people of New York a large sum of money, as every similar trial does, most of which is sheer waste. The system of judicial procedure the such cases is in great part needlessly foolish, and the people who pay the cost should demand some simple, practical reforms in this antiquated system.

In the first place, entirely too much latitude is allowed in challenging and excusing jurors. It is in no wise necessary to protect a defendant's rights, and insure him a fair and impartial trial, that hundreds of talesmen should be summoned and dismissed. Ordinarily as good a jury for any trial can be secured from 30 men, properly selected, as from 300.

Another unnecessary and unreasonable practice was exhibited in the Nan Patterson trial. After it had progressed several days a juror became ill, and the whole jury was thereupon discharged, and a new one is being selected, through the examination of hundreds of other men called to serve as jurors. In any such case it should be obligatory both upon the state and the defense to proceed with eleven jurors, and this practice should be extended to an even less number. There is no virtue in the number 12, nothing sacred about it, and state constitutions or statutes should be changed in this respect.

SCHOOL CHILDREN RAPIDLY INCREASING.

THE INCREASE in the attendance at the public schools in one year is nearly 1,900 pupils, or about 14 per cent. This is a good, safe test of increase in population, and indicates that the directors estimate of 150,000 inhabitants of Portland was none

This increase suggests also the necessity mentioned in The Journal a few days ago, and justifies a repetition of the warning, that more school houses will be needed opening of school. The lamp of last year's experience should surely guide the directors and taxpayers in the path of such foresight and energy as will preclude a repetition of that experience.

Whatever else we have we must have sufficient accommodations for the rapidly increasing number of ally Rooseveltian. It is unique in the amount of school children. A new high school building must be and lyceum.

From Forest and Stream.

What appears marvelous and positively uncanny to a town person is simple to a bushman.

Years of continuous observation de-

This bump of locality is highly developed in all Indians and whites who have passed many years in the bush.

through the forests.

Providing the trapper has once passed sure to find his way through the sec-end time, even if years should have chapsed between the trips. Every ob-ject from start to finish is an index finger pointing out the right path. A sloping path, a leaning tree, a moss-covered rock, a slight elevation in land, an odd locking stone, a blasted tree all help as guides as the observant

Of course, this tax on the memory is not required of trappers about a settled part of the country, but I am telling of what is absolutely necessary for the

fectly level, and at times our route lies miles through such a country, and should guide to depend on but his ability to he

walk straight.

It has been written time and again that the tendency, when there are no landmarks, is to walk in a circle. By constant practice those who are brought up in the wilds acquire the ability to walk in a straight line. They begin by beating a trail from point to point on some long stretch of ice, and in the bush, where any tree or obstruc-tion bars the way, and make up for any deviation from the straight course by a During 40 years in the country I never knew an Indian or white bushman to carry a compass. Apart from a black spruce swamp it would be no use what-

In going from one place to another the contour of the country has to be considered, and very frequently the "long-est way around is the shortest way home." A ridge of mountains might like est way around is the shortest way home." A ridge of mountains might lie between the place of starting and the objective point, and by making a detour round the spur, one would easier reach his destination rather than to climb up one side and down the other.

If I were to tell you as a fact that the bottle remain corked until but one sarvivor remained, this one to quaff the wine to the memory of those gone before. The idea met with instant favor before. The idea met with instant favor and it was so agreed. Each year the an-

one side and down the other.

If I were to tell you as a fact that when a bushman sees the track of some wild animal in the snow he can tell you not only the name of the animal but if it

the trunk of the tree before the bull was

upon him.

The breathless nimrod was chased around that tree until his head fairly whirled. Suddenly the bull stopped and charged from the other direction. Then he stopped again and resorted to the he stopped again and resorted to the small boy's trick of making a feint one way, then darting in the other. He nearly caught the now thoroughly rat-tled hunter by the ruse. The gentleman claimed that the timely arrival of a companion who dropped the wily bull in his tracks was all that saved his life.

WAGER OF WINE AND DEATH.

55 years ago may soon be paid. In the vault of a bank at Covington, Ind., revault of a bank at Covington, Ind., reposes a bottle of ancient vintage, the
contents of which will be drunk by the
single survivor of a little band of 20
soldiers of the Mexican war. The wager
is the most unique of the kind on record. Aftar the close of hostilities with
Mexico 20 of the veterans who went to the front from Mountain county, Indi-ana, met in reunion. This was in 1849. It was voted to assemble yearly there-

Small Change

To a strict party man, the candidates n his ticket are always the better men.

Now Smoot comes to the front again, but he is not worth a great deal of space.

The man or committee who has charge

A New York automobile played a new trick by starting a \$250,000 fire, and is very proud of itself. But some of the Democratic papers of the country will find something in the measage to criticise.

Automobiles, it is suggested, can be made very useful in war. Surely; that is the proper place for them.

At least Judge Parker was correct when he said that there was not hope, or fear, of the senate becoming Demo-cratic for several years.

Some of the senators' and representa-tives' flower bills at the opening of con-gress must take quite a slice out of their salaries, unless they are figured as

Fairbanks, Root and Taft are the most conspicuous figures with reference to the Republican nomination in 1998. But many things may happen between

Now some scientist who wants to be disagreeable says pumpkin pies are full of microbes. Well, we are inclined to believe it, of some of them, but not of those our mothers used to make.

The Japs are still losing men, accord-

It seems impossible to determine which party committed the most election frauds in Colorado. It might be well, if possible, to throw out both sides and reduce the state to a terri-

teriff revision because the country has produced a great crop of corn. And there are newspapers who will assert that Lacey's statesmanship and logic are equally superb.

Although the Salem papers urged the voters there to vote the straight Republican city ticket, a large number of them declined to follow the advice. Straight party voting in local elections is becoming more honored in the breach than in the observance.

Nan Patterson is white as chalk, de-pressed and nervous and exhibiting signs of the great strain upon her. Nan Patterson is bright, cheerful, even viva-cious, and shows no indications of worrying over her situation. So it is re-ported. Believe which report you please or neither.

Oregon Sidelights

La Grande has over 5,000 population.

North Bend is to have a reading room

The Falls City curfew ordinance is

The Gilliam county court has inaugu-rated a good-roads campaign.

Ione needs more residences will be built in the spring. A Myrtle Creek preacher is named War. Yet he is a man of peace.

Oregon ought to have a great more hens, or better laying ones.

The manufacture of mineral soap on a McMinnville water and light plants

Newberg public citiens have pur-

ing a barn that will require \$0,000 feet for of lumber.

Brownsville has three candidates for postmaster, one of them having held the job for eight years past.

One hundred tramps were driven out of Arlington in one day. Why they wanted to congregate in Arlington is not

Everybody connected with the La Grande beet-sugar factory has made money this year. The plant may be dou-bled next year.

The King's Legs and the Painter

(James Creelman, in New York World.)

modern England were deferred by a suggestive incident.

King Edward, by whose command Mr. Abbey undertook the work, had looked at the canvas, and the sweep and glow of it pleased him. The beautiful handling of the respiendent coronation robe appealed to his frank love of color. Presently, it is said, a courtier, having in mind the human nature of kings, whispered in the royal ear that it was a pity the robe hid the royal legs from sight—his majesty had such fine legs. Being but a man, after all, the king bit hard at the delicate balt, and Mr. Abbey was asked to readjust the robe in such a way as to reveal one of his majesty's legs. The leg was painted from a model with handsome limbs.

When the king saw the picture again he was delighted. The firm, graceful line of the calf, curving so elegantly in white slik hose, stirred the royal imagination. He insisted that both legs should be shown. This, of course, necessitated a more serious change in the arrangement of the robe, the key of the whole scheme of color, and there-

coat and trousers of today do not lend themselves agreeably to the poetic re-quirements of art. Nor does the stiff collar or "top hat" help the imagination. In the old days, when men were painted as frequently as women, the male sitters were lace ruffles, plumed hats, knes breeches and hose; slik and velvet coats, cut away at the waist line to show the line of the thigh; mantles, swords, queues, quaint buckles, chains. to show the line of the thigh; mantles, swords, queues, quaint buckles, chains. These things bespoke leisure and luxury. Woman was no more picturesque than man.

The Japs are still losing men, according to some reports, at the rate of from 6,000 to 20,000 a day, showing that the came odious in the eyes of a practical came odious in the eyes of a practical and busy world the gauds and fripperies of men's attire began to disappear. In a world devoted to industry and commerce a man must aspire to a reputation of the gay adornments scorn and ridicule in an age of steam and electricity.

and electricity.

The modern man must attract by his strength, courage and wisdom. He must no longer look upon himself as an object of beauty if he would avoid the laughter or pity of his fellows—unless he happens to be a king. Therefore the stiff, sombre coat, the formless trousers, hard collar and hat devoid of grace. These and the monotony of black, brown and gray, with the violent and unsympathetic contrast of the starched white shirt front, are signs of a change in the consciousness of the male factor in

But the adornments that go with the But the adornments that go with the character of femininity still persist. The world still loves a woman's beauty and grace and expects her to make the most of them by employing all the accessories of color and line and texture that heighten her natural charms. That furnishes the elements necessary to a pleasing night.

A picture that is not pleasing in composition or color has no welcome place
on the walls of a dwelling. It does not
blend with its surroundings. The mere
likeness of a man, formal, severe and
unlovely, is a challenge. The picture of
a woman, gracious in color and in soft,
flowing line, becomes a part of the decorative scheme of a well-ordered home.

The desire for a likeness as a family
record is ordinarily gratified by the
photographer. It is to him that the to be sufficiently distinguished goes to

portrait painter seldom gets a male sitter.

"Until the tailors come to our assistance we shall have to confine our work almost exclusively to women," said a famous portrait painter who is visiting New York. "America will have few good portraits of its great men. Stuart. Trumbull and the other American painters of their day have given us noble pictures of the men who made the republic, but where is there a good portrait of Webster, Lincoln or Grant? Fortunately Washington lived before the days of trousers and frock coats."

From the Philadelphia Press.
A torn linen collar, a piece of lath, a cuff, and half a dozen other odd objects hung above a certain bank clerk's desk in this city.

"My collection of queer checks," the young man said. "Each of those things is a check. Each was duly honored. Each has a storf.

"I have been collecting queer checks for three years. That piece of lath

Thave been collecting queer checks for three years. That piece of lath started me. A bank honored the lath for \$250. It was made into a check by the owner of a sawmill, who was out at the plant with his son, 30 miles from any house, and totally without paper, let alone a check book. The money was needed to pay off the hands. The sawmiller wrote on the lath just what a check correctly drawn has on it, and he sent his son into the bank to get the money and to explain. The lath check was honored after some discussion among the bank's officers.

"The cuff check was drawn by an actor who had become slightly intoxicated, got into a fight and been arrested. He was treated cavallerly in his cell and they wouldn't give him any paper and he bribed a boy to take the check to a bank. The boy got the money, and with it the actor paid his fine. Otherwise he'd have been jailed for 10 days. Thus a cuff check may be said to have saved a man from prison.

'The check written on that linen collar won a bet of \$5. A man bet a woman that a check made on a collar would be cashed, and, of course, he won his bet.

"Your bank, if you carry a good ac-

Lewis and Clark

Duffalo.

The river closed opposite the fort last night, an inch and a half in thickness. In the morning the thermometer stood at one degree below zero. Three men were badly frostbitten in consequence of their exposure.

MUNICIPALITY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

"After the war" in South Africa has meant reconstruction of an emphatically progressive sort, and in no direction perhaps more than in electricity. All towns with more than 1,000 inhabitants either have or are arranging for electrical plants, overhead lines being used freely, so that the smallest town can get an electric supply. Johannesburg has recently placed order with English firms for \$1,700,000 worth of electrical apparatus and is supplied by an overhead line carried 22 miles from Brakpan at a pressure of 12,000

by an overhead line carried 22 miles from Brakpan at a pressure of 12,000 volts. The different ports are adding to their dock facilities as rapidly as possible and in many cases adopt electric cranes and transporters. The development of mining enterprises in the Rand and Rhodesia promises big demands for electrical apparatus to be installed in large central stations. Rapid progress in electric haulage is expected. Telegraphic and telephone matters are humming and new lines are being installed in the territories recently annexed. The telephone systems of the older towns are being remodeled after the latest ideas and trunk lines are bethe latest ideas and trunk lines are be-ing run which will put Johannesburg in connection with the coast towns.

NOT PITCH FOR DIRT BOADS.

Dustlessness is the new watchword for good reads, and dustlessness is not only an ambition, but an accomplishment on some European highways which are not dustless by nature, but dustless through the nature of hot tar or hot pitch. It appears that ordinary dirt reads when properly prepared and subjected to the application of hot pitch can be made practically dustless, and in many respects as good as macadam or asphalt streets at about a fraction of the cost. The hot dry summer months of July, August and September are the hest time for applying the pitch since it must be done when the road surface is perfectly dry. The pitch is heated to a temperature of from 140 to 170 degrees F., and not only plastered over the road surface but thoroughly worked into it. It is poured into the center of the roadway and worked energetically

The pole star is really the most impor-tant of the stars in the sky. It marks the north at all times. It alone is fixed in the heavens. All the other stars seem

But the pole star of Polaris is not But the pole star of Polaris is not a very bright one, and it would be hard to identify but for the help of the so-called pointers in the Big Dipper or Great Bear. The outer rim of the dipper points nearly to Polaris, at a distance equal to three times the space that separates the two stars of the dipper's outer side. Various Indians call the pole star the "home star" and "the star that never moves," and the dipper they call the "broken back"

The Great Bear is also to be remem The Great Bear is also to be remembered as the pointers for another reason. It is the hour hand of the woodman's clock. It goes once around the north star in about 24 hours, the reverse way of the hands of a watch—that is, it goes the same way as the sun and for the same reason—that it is the earth that is going and leaving them behind.

The secretary bird is a South African species, though it is found as far north as Abyssinia. It builds its huge nest of sticks in low bushes, or tangled underbrush. While sitting the female secretary is fed by her mate. The young mature in strength very slowly, seldom leaving the nest till six months old.

The secretary bird differs from the other members of the hawk tribe in its exceedingly long legs, it is a bird of prey, feeding on insects, small animals and reptiles, snakes being its favorite food. These reptiles are often of the most venomous kind; but of them the secretary feels no fear, attacking them with its great and powerful wings, and beating them to helplessness, after which it swallows the victims whole and head foremost. The secretary bird is a South

Owing to its value as a snake eater, the secretary was carried in great num-bers to Martinique to help destroy the poisonous snakes that overrun that

GET BID OF VITALITY-SAPPERS.

Debt is a great force-waster, because very few men or women can be heavily in debt without worrying or being anxious If you are so deeply involved that it is impossible to extricate yourself without going through bankruptoy, then take your bitter medicine at once, and start again. Pay your debt in full afterward, when you are able. Get rid of all vitality-sappers. If you have taken an unfortunate step, retrace it if you can. Never allow what is dead and should be buried to keep bobbing up and draining off your life-capital in worry or vain regrets.

Coextier Than Champagns.

Although champagns is called the "wealthy water," there are few hotels in the country where one can pay more than \$14 a quart for it, while, on the other hand there are hundreds of places where the country where one can pay more than \$14 a quart for it, while, on the other hand there are hundreds of places where a bottle. There are any number of a bottle. There are any number of the wines which cost above \$18, and there is a big demand for them. Champagne does not improve with age as the other wines do and this probably accounts for the difference.

Spread of the English Language

70.000,000.

Strange as it may seem, Spaniards and Portuguese have never been able to make any headway in colder latitudes. In South America, where nearly the whole of that continent is occupied by the descendants of the Spanish and Portuguese, the temperate regions toward the south have never been properly colonized by them. Patagonia and northern Chill, which possesses almost an English climate, have little attraction for the natives of southern Europa. Both

own country. This is particularly true of the upper classes.

Though the English in their colonies and offshoots have absorbed millions of aliens there is no record of any body of English speakers becoming absorbed by any other race. In the United States there are millions of Germans who have become merged with the English in a single generation. Even the names are lost. Thus Schmidt becomes Smith, Muller Miller, and the children in many cases do not understand the father's language.

It is otherwise in Canada. There the French-speaking population is increasing faster than the English. Not that the French element absorbs the English, but rather that it crowds it out. In other parts of the world besides Canada the French language has shown considerable vitality and powers of resistence, but nowhere is it absorbed so rapidly as other European languages by the Anglo-Saxon. In Egypt the French language was all-powerful in official and commercial circles some 10 or 12 years ago, but here it also has lost ground before the English, owing to the occupation of the country by the British and to the increase of British influence in the administration of the Sues canal.

Kittanning, Pa., Cor. New York Times turned from St. Louis mystified still, but covered with presents. He has also promised to remove to India within a year to become private physician to Rajah Tipe Sahib, a dignitary of whose existence Dr. Fowler was in complete ignorance until some days ago, when he was confronted with the rajah's courier

was confronted with the rajah's courier in St. Louis.

Eleven years ago, while in Chicago attending the world's fair, Dr. Fowler was instrumental in saving the foot of a young foreigner who had been trampled on by a camel. The lad, who appeared to be a Hindoo, pressed on the physician's card.

Some weeks ago Dr. Fowler received a copy of a western paper, in which appeared an advertisement asking him to call at the Indian embassy at St. Louis, bringing with him a medal which had been given him for services at Chicago in 1893 by a young native of India. The doctor hunted up his medal and hurried to St. Louis.

There he received presents from the Rajah Tipe Sahib, who, it seems, was the lad whose foot he had saved at Chicago. The Hindoo dignitary hoped that the American doctor would accept his poor presents and would come to India to live as his private physician. The presents are worth about \$19,000. Dr. Fowler wil go to India on April 1.

FOOD OF RICK AND POOR.

The every day man on an everyday diet, digests and uses about 96 per cent of the material and about 91 per cent of the energy of his food. So Prof. Atwater says to the British association. water says to the British association. He also says the idea of the need of large amounts of meat all the way through is often exaggerated, and that muscular laborers need more food than sedentary workers. Mental labor differs from muscular labor in requiring much less material and energy for its support. In general, people with sedentary occupations have the larger and those whose labor is manual the smaller incomes. Thus it comes about that the well to do are often overfed and the poor underfed. In many cases the food of the poor is inadequate for normal nourishment and must remain so until they have larger incomes or cheaper food. Half the poor man's money is spent on food and it is worst spent in the market. Little attention is given to the relation beween the real nutritive value of food and its cost. His is the worst cocked food and the worst served food and illustrates the old writings that "To him that hath shall be given, and from him that hath shall be given, and from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath."