Editorial Page of The Journal

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

HE OUTLOOK for Portland, mentally, morally and physically, was never so good as it is foday. A movement which reaches all quarters of the and all classes and conditions of people, a movement road and far-reaching that none can lose its significance, is in progress. It is not one of those purely theoretical movements which dissipate themselves in talk but something which has seized the very heart and intelligence of the people who are diligently seeking ways and means to reach desired and necessary ends. A few years ago when the public keenly felt an imposition they would meet, indignantly talk and pass adequate resolutions and that would be the end of it. But now act. Take as an illustration the bridge draw ques-which is now up for consideration. A few years exactly the same agitation was in progress and everything was done up to the point of acting. There movement fell short and there it ultimately died. this year it is taken hold of with different heart and spirit. Men are not only ready to talk and pass resoluons but they are ready to stand up and demand what believe to be their rights and take the steps neces-

A NEW ERA FOR PORTLAND.

the newer Portland. We used to have here a civic improvement league; it much good work but most of it was done practically erce ranges itself back of the movement, it has ed at, the beauty and cleanliness of the city, will both

to secure them. This illustrates precisely the spirit

ertheless we note some signs of the reactionary In the course of a public address delivered last before the Men's Social club of the Taylor Street ist church, Mr. W. D. Fenton took occasion to de and no worse than the people who elected ok for the country would be dreary and hopeless be-nd expression. But it is distinctly untrue. Hereto-re under the crude methods which have prevailed eleca rule were not the expressions of a popular will will of a political oligarchy which we call a Every bit of political astuteness was exerted press but to thwart the popular will, to get men far it ran counter to the public will or conscience ople. The starting point of the change in Portland me with the city charter. That gave the people a chance to govern themselves and to directly pass upon whatever amendments were proposed to that instru-ment. Then followed the initiative and referendum through which they could not only initiate laws but pass upon the work of the legislature itself, thus increasing the responsibility of that body to the people by exercis-ing a popular veto right upon its work. Now comes the direct primary law under which the people as a whole have an opportunity to designate the men for whom they wish to vote. With these instrumentalities in their hands they possess tremendous weapons of defense. If they fail to use them the atrictures passed upon them by Judge Fenton will then be justified as they are not now justified. It is undoubtedly true that the people themselves have been to blame but conditions were such for so many years that the outlook seemed hopeless. In looking back at it now the only wonder is not that so' many bad men have been elected to office but that any good ones could have been. There is a wholesome streak of honesty in the American people and that is the saving grace. With a properly exercised franchise no bad or dishonest man will hereafter get into office except by mistake and he never will be retained there. But this is only possible while the people themselves hold the power in their own hands and exert it in their own interests as they now have a chance to do.

GENERAL BEEBE AND COUNCILMAN FLEGEL

HE INTIMATION of Councilman Flegel to Police Commissioner Beebe that it was a waste of time to report police derelictions to the police board, for no attention would be paid to them, constitutes as grave and serious a charge as could be made against a public body by a man in every way responsible If no attention is paid to such charges, if the police board will give no heed to reported infractions of the law, i it can be publicy stated that the chief of police himself has visited saloons after hours without himself taking any cognizance of the violations of law, and if a public official of this city makes the public statement that he knew the police board would do nothing in the premises, then he puts upon that body an imputation under which it cannot tamely rest. The head and front of the police board is General

lofty conception of his public duties. That is a char net do to exercise these qualities in private life and refations and apply a different standard of thought and conduct to the public duties which he has willingly as-sumed and sworn to faithfully discharge. We do not rule which guides him in the transaction of his private affairs but we do say that for his own sake, for the sake and in all candor The Journal wishes to say that General Beebe for his own sake and the sake of the board of which he is the head cannot afford to allow it to pass unresented, unrebuked but above all uninvestigated.

A PREMATURE SUGGESTION.

MMEDIATELY after learning of his election on No-vember 8 last President Roosevelt issued a state-

"On the fourth of next March I shall have served three and one half years, and this three and one half years constitutes my first term. The wise custom which limits president to two terms regards the substance and not

ases have come to the front and become paramount hinder any reforms, it is already urged by some news-papers that the four-year term upon which the president will soon enter will be too short for him to finish up the mstances may be such that the people will demand that

what every one sees, that the difficulty of carrying out demanded reforms rests in the senate, "the citadel of privilege, dominated by the selected and elected candilates of railway systems." The senate will do little, and hat but slowly. "It dawdles with hearings. The cor-The recall will come from the people. They will insist that Roosevelt complete what he undertook in their be-

ord. He will do what he can in four years and leave the work to his successor. The people can find a successor who will carry on the work, and in the meantime can retire a few of the trust senators and elect men like La Foliette and Van Sant in their places.

BALTIMORE'S MUNICIPAL LEAGUE.

BALTIMORE, that a little over a year ago fered one of the greatest and most destruction fered one of the greatest and most destructive fires ever known in this country, has already advanced far in the work of reconstruction and rehabilitation, and in doing so is building up, in several respects, better than before, for although one of the oldest of American cities, residents of the Mound City who are not only should but can have a far better city than they have had hitherto. With this object in view a large number of citizens have held a meeting and formed a municipal league, on a basis of membership and man-agement as broad as the city itself. All sections and classes were represented, and a general committee of 100 members is to be appointed to prepare details of the work, an executive committee of nine having been se-

While improvement from a purely material or bus less aspect is one of the main objects of the league, it government, and in the moral as well as industrial and commercial welfare of the city, and to these ends will take an active part in local politics or government, as the following objects set forth in the constitution of the league show:

First-The purpose of this organization shall be to assist in securing for the city of Baltimore an efficient and honest government, the nomination and election of efficient and honest city officers, irre-

spective of party affiliations.
Second - With the view of carrying out the above object, the association shall assume the duty of investigating and reporting upon the character and records of the nominees of any party for any mu-nicipal office for which names may be suggested, and to give the result of its investigation that the

public may vote intelligently.

Third-To aid in the investigation and determination of all municipal questions of importance to the citizens of Baltimore as such questions may from time to time arise.

Fourth-To increase the number of efficient agencies designed to discover and correct abuses in municipal affairs; to stimulate the interest of the citizens in such affairs, and to secure the utmost practicable separation of municipal questions from state and national issues.
Such a league, co-operating harmoniously and real

The head and front of the police board is General ously, cannot fail to accomplish a great deal of good in Beebe, a man of culture and refinement, reputed by his any large city. It is the best possible antidote to the friends to be a man of high ideals, strict integrity and a poison dealt out to municipalities by political machines.

Some girls seem to think it is year yet. But February 29 will March 1 this year. Now shouldn't the Mormon nvestigate Smoot for belonging inited States agaste?

The Albany Democrat thinks the uch reckless legislation was due to ouse bill 164. Maybe he sampled it.

Oregon Sidelights

Talk of a new hotel in Dufar.

Clein is to be the name of a new Hilliam county townsite.

Tambili county telephone lines may onsolidate into a county organization.

The Tiliamook creamers a factured last year 20,892 pounds of ter and 95,485 pounds of cheese 1,582,021 pounds of milk and 958 po

About Oregon

Typical Child of France

them staying power until dinner time.

from 4:36 to 7 p. m. They eat rapidly and eat to excess, invariably asking for and obtaining a second helping of soup or meat before their elders have taken more than a few mouthfuls. All through the meal, when their mouths are not full and when they are full, they talk, talk incessantly. The presence of strangers is no deterrent to the talk-ative propensities of French children. Their parents never check them. To do so would be "cruel"

Would have kept them great.

But when they became powerful and rich, their dominion extending from the Palube and Rhine to the African Sahara, they forgot the rock from which they had been hewn and the pit from which they had been digged, forgot the old landmarks, forgot the good old-fashioped truths and principles—and all was over.

Their renunciation of the old ways was the beginning of the end of their power and gelory.

Rome rose to greatness and the pit from which they had been digged, forgot the rock from which they had been digged, forgot the process to greatness and the pit from which they had been digged, forgot the rock from which they had been digged, forgot the old landmarks, forgot the good old-fashioped truths and principles—and all was over.

Their renunciation of the end of their power and gelory.

Rome rose to greatness and to greatness and to greatness and to greatness and the pit from which they had been digged.

A History of the Romans

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Lewis and Clar

From the World Today. From the World Today.

It would be easier to tell where is the east. That is always toward the Atlantic Boston is east to Cleveland; Chicago is east to Colorado, and everything this side of the Cascade mountains is saist to the Pacific coast. It almost amounts to this. The west is where a man is: the list where he of his father came from. on. So it comes to pass that the west has

WEERE IS THE WEST?

no fixed geographical limits like the south and New England. It is some-thing more than a geographical term. Like Boston, it is a state of mind. There fare mountains and rivers and oceans within the limits of which this state of mind is pre-eminently to be found, but it is to be recognized in other regions as well. You can tell a westerner as you can tell a southerners—sometimes by his speech, always by his attitude toward life.

great region where blood and ideas and habits of every people under the sun are fusing into a new race. Inevitably down on my bill. Her gloves and her the west is cosmopolitan. With such an boots cost her no more than mine cost the west is cosmopolitan. With such an origin it could not be otherwise. Provincialism, in any arrogant sense of the term, you will not find outside of the 13 original states of the union. On the prairies too many men have succeeded where according to all precedent they ought to have failed for any one to claim a proprietary right in omniscience. Lacking that, however, convinced it may be of its own superiority, the west is tolerant, and the westerner is at home everywhere.

down on my bill. Her gloves and her boots cost her no more than mine cost me.

An overgrown creature sits in front of me at the theatre. He sees the piece and I see him. And we pay the same. It is a great injustice. In the day of tree priors it is well to be big. The necessaries of life are pooled and the value averaged per fixed of the population.