

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER. S. S. JACKSON, Publisher. Published every evening (except Sunday) and every Sunday morning...

Entered at the postoffice at Portland, Ore., as second-class matter. TELEPHONES: Editorial Room, Main 250; Business Office, Main 250.

FOREIGN ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE: W. B. BENTLEY, Special Advertising Agency, 120 Nassau street, New York. Tribune building, Chicago.

Subscription Terms by mail to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico: DAILY, \$5.00 One month, \$1.50 Six months, \$8.00 One year, \$15.00. SUNDAY, \$1.00 One month, \$3.00 Six months, \$15.00 One year, \$28.00.

Better to be despised for too anxious apprehensions than ruined by a too confident security.—Burke.

THE COMING DES MOINES CONFERENCE.

NEXT MONTH the conference called by Governor Cummins to discuss the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people will meet in Des Moines, and it is expected that delegates from nearly if not quite all the states will be in attendance.

The conference at Des Moines will in all probability endorse this primary method of choosing senators, already in vogue in several southern states, in Oregon and in Illinois; but it is expected it will also take steps to bring about an amendment to the federal constitution by the action of three fourths of the states, as that instrument provides may be done.

In one way or the other the old method of electing United States senators is doomed to pass away, as it involves too many scandals and interferes too much with proper state legislation.

A BOSS-RIDDEN STATE.

CALIFORNIA Republican politicians are now engaged in loading dice for use in the state convention of that party. The governorship is at stake, and the smoothest manipulator will name the winner.

It is a peculiar state of affairs. Four candidates are looked upon as possibilities, but politicians admit that none of the four is strong enough to win without the aid of Herrin.

California is at the mercy of two bosses, William F. Herrin and Abe Ruef. One would prefer to name Warren Porter of Santa Cruz for governor; the other favors J. O. Hayes, San Jose millionaire and brother of Congressman E. A. Hayes.

gether and unite on some candidate satisfactory to both. It is this that throws a rainbow across the path of Congressman J. N. Gillett. The man from Humboldt has never offended either of the bosses, and this doubtful virtue may make him governor of California.

At a glance it would seem that Governor Pardee is the people's candidate. Not so. Four years of office has given him an opportunity to build up a machine. This machine has won for him a little more than a third of the total number of delegates.

On the other side of the political fence lies a demoralized Democracy. The state gave Roosevelt about 115,000 majority in 1904, and this has put fear into the hearts of the hitherto unterrified. After the Republican convention has taken its orders from Herrin, there may be a public awakening, but it is not likely.

EARTHQUAKES.

THERE have always been earthquakes in various parts of the world, and many destructive ones, but this seems a time of unusual seismic activity, possibly portending even greater disasters, if possible—and it would be possible, say in New York or London—than those that have recently occurred in San Francisco and Valparaiso and other Chilean towns.

Valparaiso has been subject to many earthquakes, in fact they have been so numerous there that people thought little or nothing of them, but these were generally only slight disturbances of the earth's crust, doing little or no damage and not affrighting the people more than momentarily.

OBSERVANCE OF LAW.

SOME IF NOT all the large shippers and railroads have been so accustomed to violate the interstate commerce law for years that they have considered its violation to be a matter of course, something scarcely to be denied or disguised.

The Journal is not jeopardizing its hitherto untarnished reputation as a political prophet when it predicts that "Uncle Joe" Cannon will not be elected to the presidency. This splendid nation is moving ahead too fast to permit itself to be hobbled for years with the policy of "stand-patism."

Senator Cullom speaks of the terrible times under free trade 10 years ago. We had no "free trade" then, and the terrible time began under the McKinley tariff.

A Little Out of the Common

THINGS PRINTED TO READ WHILE YOU WAIT.

The Little Blind Beggar. At the gate of the world where the travel flows, And the folk stream by full-tide, A little blind beggar sits in the sun...

Defiant English. When struggling with a foreign language, ancient or modern, one seldom stops to think how ludicrous our endeavors to translate the meaning into our own tongue would seem to one born to speak that language as his own.

High Life in Africa. A Gold Coast Journal describes a wedding and a feast following it in a manner befitting a custodian of morals and manners: "It is reported that most of the gentlemen who attended refreshed themselves avariciously, and the manner in which they acted does not speak well of the gentlemen's principles.

Remarkable Metaphor. The English woman suffragists have contributed besides other things to the English language a remarkable mixed metaphor. One of these strenuous ladies, speaking of the lack of interest of women in their rights, said: "As yet it is but a flea bite on the ocean, but it will rise in all our strength and nip it in the bud. We have seen too much not to know where the 'boot pinches'."

The Bad Dollar. "See that bad dollar" said the smart conductor. "Well, a fellow passed it on me when I wasn't looking, and as I can't afford the loss, I must pass it along."

Wingless Angel. From the Yonkers Statesman. "The theatrical angel has no wings," remarked the observer of events and things; "when his money is gone he has to walk just like the rest of the bunch."

Out of the Mouths of Babes. From the Chicago News. "Mamma—You have been very naughty today, Tommy." "Tommy—Mamma: I could have been twice as naughty if I had wanted to."

Chinese Fight With Fingers. From the Bangkok Times. On Sunday afternoon a Chinaman is reported to have been killed in a house at Talat Piu, Bangkok, as the result of a duel with another Chinaman.

Teacher (junior grammar class)—Johnny, what gender is "phonograph"? Johnny—Feminine gender. Teacher—No, no; it's neuter. Johnny—Well, it ought to be feminine, 'cause it repeats everything it hears.

Wheat has declined in price 10 cents a bushel and cotton and corn are getting cheaper, and yet the Republicans declare that the tariff protects the farmer.

Did't Mind Being Sued. Daniel Webster was once sued by his butcher and the man did not call upon him afterward to ask him to trade with him. Webster met him in the course of a few days and asked him why he didn't call. "Because," said the man, "I supposed that you would be offended and wouldn't trade with me any more."

Cardinal Martinelli's Birthday. Cardinal Martinelli, who became well known to Americans in his several years' residence in Washington as the apostolic delegate to America, was born August 26, 1848, in the parish of Santa Anna, Lucca, Tuscany.

Cods Won't Marry. From the New York Sun. Statistic by Secretary Arthur B. Bester of the Alumni association of the University of Chicago show that of the 1,060 women graduates of the university since its reestablishment in 1893 only 171, or about 16 per cent, have married.

Inducted by His Sons. Frank Stewart of Cedar Falls, Iowa, has been made a Knight of Pythias under remarkable circumstances. The three, having conferred upon him by his 11 sons, the event taking place at the castle hall of Red Cedar lodge No. 83.

Algerian Strikers. They have an original way of making a strike effective in Algiers. The shoemakers are striking. They are Jews, Moslems and Spaniards, and lack cohesion of race and language, so that their leaders felt something was needed to keep them in hand.

Cognac for Automobiles. From the Paris Eclair. Shortly before the Hub of Paris was ill there arrived from Paris an automobile. Almost before it was unpacked his majesty wished to see it worked.

reconcile our business interests to the trifling loss occasioned by the car shortage.

A thief who steals a few dollars is a very insignificant criminal beside Stensland, who injured thousands and ruined hundreds.

The Tacoma Ledger concedes that protection did not cause the big crops. The Salem Statesman may consider this heretical.

While the excuse necessarily carries with it a confession of its inadequacy, we will have to remain content with President Roosevelt's intimation that the appointment of T. Cader Powell to a position in Alaska without hope of defalcation is the only fit punishment that could be visited on a politician who brazenly nurses his crimes in the aegis of the statute of limitations.

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One of Seattle's prominent women has just presented her delighted husband with twins, and the citizens of the sprightly little suburb are talking of celebrating the event by taking a new census.

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We sincerely trust that the knowledge that Mr. Harriman has made \$20,000,000 out of a skillful manipulation of the stocks of railroads that are supposed to serve Oregon will

A Little Nonsense

The Power of Talk.

Mayor Casey, the courageous reformer of Lowell, said the other day of a certain corrupt corporation: "Talk is cheap, and till we start to put these men in jail they will continue to sin. For, no matter how often we expose them they need only turn on their heels and say 'I am innocent' and virtuous conduct and the force of our exposure is wiped out."

"No matter what men are convicted of, just give them liberty to talk, and neither law nor equity will be able to reach them. They will talk themselves back into respectability again."

"A French paper one day printed a paragraph to this effect: 'At the table d'hote a dish of new peas is served. A Frenchman sweeps all the peas into his plate and begins to eat.' 'Look here,' says a neighbor, 'the rest of us like peas too.' 'Ah, but not as much as I do,' says the Frenchman."

"The man with the grip clambered aboard. Near the depot the conductor roused up to him. 'Fellow! what's your name?' 'Fellow! that fellow's always in a hurry and always changes a bill!'

"He caught me at last," he said, "this is a worse counterfeit than the dollar was."

"I deserve but little credit. The circumstances pointed to only one ill-omened conclusion. They were unmistakable. They were like an incident that happened the other day to a dear friend."

"My friend, as he sat at breakfast, looked up to see his wife smiling at him tenderly and playfully. 'I mended the hole in your vest pocket last night while you were asleep,' she said. 'Am I not, darling, a most devoted housewife?'

"Perhaps," said my friend darkly. "But how did you know there was a hole in my vest pocket?"

A Child's Odd Mind. The late Henry N. Pillsbury, the famous chess player, was fond of children and delighted in incidents that illustrated the originality of the child mind.

At the Mercantile library they teach me new ways of looking at things. They give me new points of view. "I showed a little girl an aquarium of Japanese gold fish the other day."

"How would you like to be a little fish?" said I. "Not much," said the little girl. "Why not?" I asked. "Because," she said, "if you were a little fish your mamma wouldn't have any lap."

Commenting on a recent editorial in the Oregonian concerning the Marquam case, The Dallas Optimist says: "Without a belief in God there could be no morality in the human mind. I was curious to know what the speaker meant by the word 'God.' Did he mean one of the Greek gods, of whom there were many? Or was it the God Jehovah, of the Hebrews in general, and of Moses,

Letters From the People on Topics of Current Interest

A Word to Councilmen.

Portland, Aug. 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—In your valuable issue of the 16th was an article from the pen of a councilman recommending another pipe line and the purchase of the top of Mount Taher for a park. The parks owned by the city are only partly improved. We have more parks than the property owners of the city. Thousands of dollars for this purpose could be expended if the city could afford to do so.

As to the water supply, we already have an abundance of water for the needs of the present population, and even though the population was 200,000 there would be ample water for all. Of course, we have not water sufficient to supply all of Multnomah county. When the waterworks were built they were intended only to supply this city.

A number of our citizens think that in order for Portland to be a great metropolis all the adjacent farming country must be annexed, such as Mount Hood, Mount St. Helens and other suburban towns. Where the benefit is to be derived from having these places annexed is doubtful. All the benefit these places could hope to have from annexation would be an increase of taxation and supply of the city with suburban sewage. The expense to the city is so great, and the compensation so small, that it is inadequate to the amount of money to be expended. If our city covered but one half of the territory it does now it would be better off than it is altogether too large for the population.

As far as parks are concerned, we might as well get out to almost any of them in 15 or 20 minutes and get all the fresh air and country sights and sounds we desire.

When we get supply pipes laid to Mount Tabor and Mount St. Helens we will have an abundance of water.

The income received by the city for water is something enormous. It seems inadvisable to any one who thinks of the matter that the water department should have trouble in making the water department perfect. Not only that, but there should be a large amount of money, and would be, if handled judiciously, which would go toward paying the great debt created to bring the water from Bull Run. Instead, I am reliably informed, no money has been contributed to the sinking fund, and this great income has been spent in the putting in of new pipes, etc. It would seem that the equipment of the water department would be as perfect as money could make it when we consider the amount of money spent for that purpose are taken into consideration.

Oregon need never fear a water famine, as the supply is almost inexhaustible and, best of all, the water pours into the city by gravity and needs no expense the water department is put to in looking after the pipe line from here to Bull Run, and the water does the rest.

As far as the water department is concerned, when the city is in the distant future that it will be necessary to install another pipe line, it will not be necessary to sell bonds, as the great income from the tax collectors for water will be adequate to furnish the money for a new pipe line if needed. Consequently, it will not be necessary to sell bonds for that purpose.

THOMAS GUINEAN.

Marquams of Future.

Clackamas, Aug. 17.—To the Editor of The Journal—In a recent issue of your paper was a suggestion that "without a belief in God there could be no morality in the human mind. I was curious to know what the speaker meant by the word 'God.' Did he mean one of the Greek gods, of whom there were many? Or was it the God Jehovah, of the Hebrews in general, and of Moses,

and the buyers were supposed to have a gold brick.

In the course of time, however, values increased, and then very suddenly the Marquams undertook to show that Mr. Rose had acted as agent for the purchase of the block from himself as trustee, contrary to law, and the suits began. Well, the supreme court has twice decided that Mr. Rose acted within his legal rights, and the case is settled.

Now comes the Oregonian and others, and places a greatly exaggerated value on the property. We have been told, and we think truthfully, that the Marquam block would not today sell for enough to pay the original loans, operating expenses and 5 per cent interest. And we all know the estate has been carefully and economically cared for. The courts went into that matter and found that to be true.

The whole proposition is this: Marquam undertook to handle a deal which he could not master. He went broke. He was sold out. The incident was closed just as the Perkins and others of those days. When the block was put in good order, was properly handled, values went up and the old owners undertook to get it back on a technicality, and they have failed.

We do not know the key to Mr. Rose or the Ladds, or any of the "plutocrats." But we do not think the Oregonian is "totting fair" in this matter, and we give the facts, never having seen them. Let's stated before save in the court proceedings.

The Road to "Success." By Wex Jones. Let everything go. In the hustle for dough, And never let up. For a billion or so.

To limbo with youth. And friendship and truth; Get your mitts on the coin Without scruple or ruth.

Expand your first million Till it swells to a billion; Then mollify and night so make it a trillion.

And then when your store Is a trillion or o'er— Why, keep on a-hustling And rustling for more.

Keep on, never stop; Keep on till you drop. Every dollar you miss Some other will cop.

Keep on till you die— And then from the day when You may watch your eye when Make your dollar head

Plain Statement of the Marquam Case

FROM AN OUTSIDE PAPER.

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