EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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

Entered at the postoffice at Portland, Or., for transmission through the mails as second-class matter.

TELEPHONE—MAIN 7172.

All departments reached by this number. Tell the operator the department you want.

FOREIGN ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

Vreeland-Benjamin Special Advertising Agency, Brunswick Building, 225 Fifth avenue, New York; Tribune Building, Chicago.

Subscription Terms by mail to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico.

DAILY.

One year.....$5.00 | One Month.....$ .50

SUNDAY.

One year.....$2.50 | One month.....$ .25

DAILY AND SUNDAY.

One year.....$7.50 | One month.....$ .65

The JOURNAL

SWORN CIRCULATION.

March, 1907, Daily average.....28,650

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

March, 1907, daily average.....28,650
March, 1906, daily average.....25,121

Gain in the year, daily average.....3,729

The Journal was the first paper in the northwest—throughout the Oregon country—to publish its circulation every day and invite anyone interested to come and examine its records at any time. The invitation is still open to friend or foe, even to any representative of our rivals, who still have lingering doubts of THE JOURNAL'S figures. THE JOURNAL'S statements are accepted by all advertising authorities, some of whom have made examinations, and on the strength of which Rowell's American Newspaper Directory accords THE JOURNAL its guarantee star, which further insures the correctness of The Journal's claims and figures. THE JOURNAL having a greater paid circulation in Portland and in Oregon than any other daily paper it offers the greatest inducements to advertisers, those making time contracts being given the benefit of rates less than 2 cents per inch, per insertion, per thousand of proved circulation, a lower rate than any paper on the coast. The advertisers take advantage of both Journal circulation and rates, so much so that its columns are crowded with their business and results flow to them in satisfying quantity, while THE JOURNAL prospers and flourishes.

FREE WATER AND BRIDGE TAX

RESPONDING to the request of a correspondent, The Journal reprints the amendment to section 144 of the charter providing for a 2-mill tax for bridges to cost from $15,000 to $75,000 across gulches or streams other than the Willamette river, and also the ordinance providing for the payment by the railway company of a portion of the cost of such bridges or elevated roadways used by the company. It will be seen that under this ordinance the railway company is required to pay one fourth the cost of such bridges, aside from the portion of the superstructure designated, the entire cost of which it must pay, and it must also pay the cost of repairing and maintaining this portion of the structure.

Our correspondent should bear in mind that The Journal, in opposing the free water amendment, has done so on its own demerits, and more particularly because the repeal of the bridge tax amendment was surreptitiously and not openly and honestly coupled with it. The Journal has not expressed any opinion as to the merits of the bridge-tax, but has objected and does object to an underhanded attempt to repeal that part of the charter under a pretense of adopting only the free water amendment. Each proposition should stand on its own merits. There is no connection or relation whatever between them. People were asked to vote for free water only, but it was attempted to trick all those who favor free water to vote, without knowing it, for the repeal of the bridge tax also. This attempted trick was of itself sufficient to arouse the people's hostility to the measure. If they are to vote on free water they don't want to be obliged to vote at the same time on the bridge tax. Many might favor one proposition and oppose the other. Besides, nobody has petitioned for a repeal of the bridge tax, for this feature of the amendment was not disclosed to those who signed the petition.

That the bridge-tax and the ordinance under which it is expended are just right we do not assert. We think it probable that the railway company gets more than its share of the benefits of this tax. If so, the proper remedy is to elect councilmen who will change the ordinance, or if that cannot be done bring the matter up by the initiative as a separate, single question, and let it be discussed and decided on its own merits.

As to the free water proposition, The Journal has on several occasions given its reasons for opposing it, and has heard no evidence to change its opinion. The Journal is opposed to water consumers paying for "water mains through tracts of vacant lots at no expense to the owners." This paper has constantly urged that the property benefited should pay for these new mains. We believe the cost of water delivered to a consumer should be the measure of the price charged him for it, and that this cost ought to be reduced probably one half, but that free water is not only unjust even if possible, but is in fact impossible, for in the end the ground owners will get even, and more.

The bridge tax is probably needed, for awhile, and should stand unless the people choose to repeal it as a single, fair, open proposition; but care should be taken to see that the railway company does not get too much of the benefit of it. The correspondent's views on the cost of mains for new districts are correct, and this change will be brought about by the adoption of the amendment proposed by the council, rather than by the free water amendment.

THE MOVEMENT FOR PEACE

"AMONG the World's Peacemakers" is the title of a new book edited by Hayne Davis, with an introduction by Andrew Carnegie. It is an epitome of the work of the interparliamentary union, which was brought about largely by the efforts of William Randal Cremer, a young member of the British parliament, elected in 1885. He had secured in 1887 the signatures of 234 members of parliament to a document asking the American congress to take the initial steps in concluding an arbitration treaty with Great Britain. This document was read to President Cleveland, and was supported by several eminent Englishmen, and was sympathetically received by him. Nothing further was done then, but a year later Mr. Cremer and other British peace advocates were received and listened to by a committee of the French parliament, and in consequence of this members of the parliaments of Great Britain, the United States, Italy, Norway and Hungary met at Paris during the exposition in 1889, and from this grew the interparliamentary union that has held sessions at all international expositions, and out of whose efforts have grown the arbitration commission, the peace congresses, and the various movements in favor of the world's peace that are now attracting so much attention.

Mr. Davis quotes liberally from American newspapers that have stood for conciliation, arbitration and peace, and gives great credit to various Americans, notably Representatives Barthold and Burton, W. J. Bryan, and of course President Roosevelt. Portraits of Captain Richard P. Hobson, John Sharp Williams and Samuel Gompers also appear.

Mr. Davis' collection of facts and utterances on this progressive movement is of much value to students of it, and will be of interest to readers generally.

FEDERAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

REPLYING to Senator Beveridge's argument that there is no danger or harm in centralization of power because the people of the United States comprise the whole, of whom the people of the states are parts, and what is good for the whole people must be for the benefit of all the parts, Mr. Bryan says:

If the arguments in defense of local self-government are unsound, then the whole theory of self-government is defective. It must be assumed that the people want to do what is right—upon no other theory can we have self-government. It must also be assumed that the people can act most intelligently upon that which they best understand. That they can best understand a thing with which they deal daily is axiomatic; and it is equally true that they will study most those things in which they are individually interested.

He illustrates thus: If one goes into a crowded hall and announces a great fire in a distant city, nobody is greatly interested; if he announces that the house of Mr. Smith, who is present, is on fire, one man is intensely interested and his neighbors much; if it is announced that the next building to the hall is in flames, all are interested.

People mean to do right as a whole, but in many instances the great majority neither know nor care much about the particular interests of any one state or locality; hence the necessity of the federal government attending only to what concerns the whole, leaving each state, county and city, as far as possible, to attend to its own peculiar affairs.

THE EARTH QUAKES

IF THESE widespread and concurrent disturbances of the earth's surface had occurred over half a century ago, when a considerable fraction of the people had been induced to believe that the end of the world was nigh at hand, the temblors would have been regarded by many as a certain sign and the beginning of that predicted event, the final catastrophe that would end everything earthly. But in these more enlightened, philosophical and incredulous times, scarcely anybody will suppose the internal commotion in places so widely apart is significant of the planet's destruction, but it will be generally regarded as a phenomenon not unlikely to recur frequently or be productive of greatly disastrous results.

It is a very interesting fact, however, that such concurrent and distinct tremors of the earth's crust have never before occurred, or been observed and recorded, and they are sufficient to cause anxiety to the timid and thoughtful consideration by all, especially as they are occuring so soon after several violent eruptions and destructive quakes within a short time—at Valparaiso, San Francisco and Vesuvius, not to count Pelee. These were local, as most earthquakes of consequence have appeared to be, but it seems as if now there was a simultaneous disturbance of the earth's crust in many places and on opposite sides of the globe.

We shall have a series of explanations and theories of probable causes, in which differences of reputedly wise men's opinions will appear, and after which we shall know little if any more than before. There is much for the seismographers yet to learn; indeed, the earth below its topmost layer of crust is pretty much a sealed book to them. But even if the more common theories and explanations are correct, and we may as well consider them so, nothing is to be done by way of prevention or regulation. Finite man, so powerful in achievement with elements that he can control and direct, is helpless here. If the earth's crust is going to cave in in places and bulge up in others; if thereby islands are to arise from the ocean, coast lines are to be changed, and cities are to be destroyed, to an unprecedented extent, forebodings are useless and fearful imaginings are foolish.

It is to be observed that these disturbances, like most similar preceding ones, are in equatorial latitudes, or at least not far north. Yet there have been notable exceptions, and may be others. We can only say that the probability of a temblor is much greater in low latitudes, but we cannot be assured that any part of the temperate zone is exempt. However, we this far north will regard ourselves as immune, on the theory that the crust beneath us is too thick and solid to be disturbed any more by these internal riots.

Dr. Deveny and Dr. Davis were shamefully mistreated in the filing of partly bogus petitions by men they employed to secure names, but they may possibly find a little consolation in reflecting that they will save further campaign expenses.

Senator La Follette gets a good price for his lecture, but he gives good measure—talks three hours. With some lecturers this might be an infliction, but La Follette's audiences stay with him, with pleasure as well as profit.

Before the president pardons Mr. January, who escaped from a federal prison nine years ago, married six years ago and has been an honest, decent man all this time, he may want to know how many babies he has.

If one could only see John Smith and Pocohontas, just as they were, a trip to Jamestown would be better worth while.

Under the primary law, a party committee has no right to act or speak, or to expect any recognition if it does, until after the primaries.

Judge Hebbard of San Francisco has charged Mr. Heney with criminal libel, but it is suspected that the judge was drunk again.

A plain business man, Mr. Walter O. Haines, very easily and effectually punctured the free water bubble.

The radicals having carried a point in the douma, its dissolution may be expected to follow soon.

Leading Up Gradually.

From the Chicago Tribune.

"Beg pardon, sir," said the man in the suit of faded black, "but are you carrying all the life insurance you want?"

"Yes, sir," answered the man at the desk, "I am."

"Could I interest you in a morocco bound edition of the works of William Makepeace Thackeray?"

"You could not."

"Don't you need a germproof filter at your house?"

"I do not."

"Would you invest in a good second-hand typewriter if you could get it cheap?"

"I have no use for a typewriter."

"Just so. Would an offer to supply you with first-class imported Havana cigars at $10 a hundred appeal to you?"

"Not a cent's worth."

"How would a proposition to sell you a Century Dictionary, slightly shelf worn, for only $40 strike you?"

"It wouldn't come within 40 miles of hitting me."

"That being the case," said the caller, "would you be willing to buy a 10-cent box of shoe polish just to get rid of me?"

"Great Scott! Yes."

"Thanks. Good day."

Not Battle Scarred.

From the Philadelphia Press.

"Bragley tells me he was one of the first to enlist for the Spanish war, and he came out of it with several scars.

"Yes, the scars were on his arm. He was vaccinated at Tampa and that's as far as he got."

For the Plain Girl

No girl need be plain.

Nature has been much kinder to some of her daughters than to others in the way of bestowing regular features and beautiful complexions upon them, but the plain ones can make much more of themselves than many of them do.

Just because your hair is thin and of no particular color is no reason why you should accept the fact stupidly and make no attempt to remedy it.

Nor is it the least excuse for bleaching it into a dead looking yellow, the like of which never grew on mortal head. Brushing and keeping it clean are the only real remedies. Constant brushing will make it glossy and thick on the scalp. Wash it every fortnight with castile soap and take pains to dress it in the neatest and most becoming manner. No one admires bleached hair excepting a few foolish women who imagine that they are improving their looks by ruining their hair.

If your complexion is muddy and greasy it is because you are not eating the proper kind of food nor getting enough fresh air. Give up all oily and fatty foods. Pastry and rich cake will ruin any complexion. Drink all the milk you can, and at least a quart of water daily. The American girl runs grave risk of spoiling her complexion by the amount of coffee she drinks. Tea and coffee are both enemies to a good skin.

Wash your face with cold water in the morning, drying thoroughly with a moderately coarse towel. At night wash in warm (not hot) water and soap, if your skin can stand the latter. Avoid cheap perfumed soaps, and buy only that which is reliable. Cleanliness of person is absolutely necessary to good looks. Take as much exercise as is possible. The poisons of the body are thrown off by perspiration. If you sleep in an airtight room, with all the windows closed, you never can be good looking, no matter how kind nature has been to you.

Don't let the corners of your mouth droop. Of what use is a pretty complexion if it is accompanied by a peevish mouth?

Just look in the glass and say to yourself, "I was not very pretty to start with, but I am bound to make myself pleasant to look at."

A merry, wholesome, plain face is much pleasanter to look at than a pretty, peevish one.

Men especially admire wholesomeness. They like a girl to be cheerful and ready with a smile for whatever fate may overtake her.

The Play

Such enthusiastic reports of "A Yankee Tourist" reached Portland in advance of the show that those who are skeptical and suspicious suggested the work of industrious press agents. But they retracted it all last night, confessed they weren't as wise as they pretended to be and enjoyed one of the very best musical comedies of the season.

It was a large audience and an enthusiastic one that attended the first-night performance. So highly pleased was it that it forced Raymond Hitchcock, who is being starred in the production, to respond to a curtain call. He responded not only with intelligence, but with real humor, making a clever little speech that was thoroughly enjoyed. Thus he established a wide degree of difference between himself and most actors who respond to curtain calls.

"A Yankee Tourist" is a revised version of Richard Harding Davis' farce, entitled "The Galloper." The lyrics were written by Wallace Irwin and the music by Alfred G. Robyn. The music is tuneful and catchy and the lines are as clever as Mr. Irwin's admirers could desire.

The comedy has for its plot the experiences of an American tourist during the Graeco-Turkish war of 1897. He becomes a war correspondent, not from desire, but from force of circumstances, and the resulting experiences afford many amusing lines and situations.

In "A Yankee Tourist," Mr. Hitchcock's work is probably the best of his career. He is funny, inimitably so, with absolutely none of the horse-play antics of the average comedian, and thoroughly delighted the audience last night.

The comedian is supported by an excellent company, including a number of good voices, both male and female, and a bunch of really pretty chorus girls. His chief supports are Miss Flora Zabelle and Miss Helen Hale, both of whom dance and sing well enough to please any audience. Miss Zabelle possesses a remarkably good voice.

A decidedly attractive feature of the show is Miss Hale, pretty, vivacious and possessing a sincere and apparent desire to please. She appeared in Portland in "Woodland" and left such a pleasant impression that she was instantly recognized when she appeared last night and received a warm welcome.

Other members of the company are way above the average and succeed in giving one of the most enjoyable entertainments of the year. The piece is beautifully staged and the costumes are a not inconspicuous feature. It is up to the Henry W. Savage standard, which is saying much.

"A Yankee Tourist" will be the bill at the Heilig this afternoon, tonight and tomorrow night.

Enjoy the City Today.

From the Pendleton East Oregonian.

The present generation of property holders in Pendleton is not going to live always. Within another quarter of a century all of the present list of middle-aged men must expect to be relieved by another generation.

The property of the city will continue to increase in value. The wealth which the present generation will bequeath to the coming generation will have increased many fold and its ability to pay will have multiplied likewise.

Why, then, should the present generation deprive itself of all the comforts of city life in order to hoard a larger gift for the future? Why should we not enjoy better streets, a city hall, a good system of water works, a better sewer system and a more secure levee, now, today, while we are on earth to enjoy such things?

What good will the hoarded wealth of today be to the property owner of today, half a century hence? Why not provide the necessaries and comforts as we go along and enjoy them while we may, leaving the increased property values of the future to take up the burden where we lay it down?

Not Hopeful.

From the Newark News.

"'Tis a fine, elegant husband you have, ma'am," said Maggie. 'Him and me was talkin' about Ireland this mornin'. He's traveled as far as many a gentleman. And there ain't many husbands as good to their wives, ma'am. Look how he brings you lettuce and things from the market. But dear, dear! That kind never lives long."

Be Sincere

By Maurice Meaterlinck.

It is impossible to be sincere with others unless you have learned to be sincere with yourself. Sincerity is only the consciousness and analysis of the motives of all life's actions. It is the expression of this consciousness that one is able later to lay before the eyes of the being with whom one is seeking the bliss of sincerity.

Thus understood, sincerity's aim is not to lead to moral perfection. It leads elsewhere, higher if we will; in any case to more human and more fertile regions.

The perfection of a character, as we generally understand it, is too often but an unproductive abstention, a sort of ataraxy, an abatement of instinctive life, which is, when all is said, the one source of all the other lives that we succeed in organising within us.

This perfection tends to suppress our too ardent desires—ambition, pride, vanity, selfishness, craving for pleasure—in short, all the human passions, that is to say, all that constitutes our primitive vital force, the very groundwork of our energy of existence, which nothing can replace.

If we stifle within ourselves all the manifestations of life, to substitute for them merely the contemplation of their defeat, soon we shall have nothing left to contemplate.

When we have achieved a sufficient sincerity with ourselves, it does not follow that we must deliver it to the first comer. The frankest and most loyal man has the right to hide from others the greater part of what he thinks or feels.

If he be uncertain whether the truth you propose to speak will be understood, do not utter it. It would appear in others quite different from what it is in you, and, taking in them the appearance of a lie, it would do the same harm as a real lie.

Whatever the absolute moralists may say, as soon as one is no longer among equal consciences every truth to produce the effect of truth needs focussing.

It is therefore right that we should present to each man only the truth for which he has room in the hut or place which he has built to admit the truths of his life. But let us, nevertheless, give 10 or 20 times as many truths as we are offered in exchange.

The reign of instinct begins only when focusing is no longer necessary. We then enter the privileged region of confidence and love, which is like a delightful shore where we meet in our nakedness and go bathing together under the rays of a kindly sun.

Until this hour man lived on his guard like a culprit. He did not yet know that every man has the right to be what he is, that there is no shame in his mind or in his heart, any more than in his body. He soon learns with the feeling of relief of an acquitted prisoner that that which he thought it his duty to conceal is just the most radical portion of the force of life.

When we have reached so far the idea no longer comes to us to hide a secret thought or a secret sentiment, however vulgar and contemptible. They can no longer make us blush, seeing that in owning them we disown them, we separate them from ourselves, we prove that they no longer belong to us, no longer take part in our lives, no longer spring from the active, personal and voluntary side of our strength, but from the primitive, formless and enslaved being that affords us an entertainment as amusing as are all those in which we detect the play of the instinctive powers of nature.

Imagine Shylock capable of knowing and confessing his greed—he would cease to be greedy, and his greed would change its shape and no longer be odious and hurtful.

We all desire to confess our own faults, at least at times, but we are long afraid lest those who love us should love us less if we revealed to them that which we scarcely dare reveal to ourselves. It seems to us as though certain confessions would disfigure forever the image which they have formed of us.

If this were true, that would be a proof that we are not loved on the same scale as that on which we love. It is not he who makes confession that should blush, but he who does not yet understand that we have overcome a wrong by the very act of confessing it.

It is not we, but a stranger who now stands in the place where we committed a fault. The fault itself we have eliminated from our being, it has nothing more in common with our real life.

A Modern Alphabet.

By Wex Jones.

A is for Anahias, a popular sort of guy,
Whose name will be borne by thousands
In the happy by-and-by.

B begins Bunk, which plutocrats so
unctuously utter—
They tell how much they love a man as
they swipe his bread and butter.

C is for Civilization, proof against jeers
and gibes;
We've got more coin and misery than
all the savage tribes.

D's for the little Dealer, who goes so
completely bust
When the impudent rascal starts a store
that's not controlled by a trust.

E is for Everybody, who's made the
blooming goat,
When he might as well be the boss
himself if he'd only use his vote.

* *

England will fine railroad officials $25 for allowing a straphanger in a car. Over here Ryan fines the straphanger.

* *

A NOVEL IN A NUTSHELL.

I.

They meet.

II.

They marry.

III.

They squabble.

IV.

They make up.

V.

They go to live in the suburbs.

Finis.

Today in History.

1296—King of Scots defeated and taken at Dunbar.

1689—New York charter granted by Governor Dongan.

1733—Earl of London, early commander-in-chief of British forces in America, died. Born 1705.

1797—Robert Prescott appointed governor of Canada.

1813—City of York, now Toronto, taken by American forces.

1831—Duke of Wellington's house mobbed in London.

1863—The ship Anglo-Saxon wrecked off Cape Race; 237 lives lost.

1876—Queen Victoria declared empress of India.

1882—Ralph Waldo Emerson, American author, died. Born May 25, 1803.

1891—Ground broken for the Grant monument in New York city.

Often the Same.

From the Baltimore Sun.

It is difficult to distinguish between might and wrong.

The Peoples Forum

Non-Existence of Matter.

Albany, Or., April 22.—To the Editor of The Journal—A somewhat peculiar agitation or discussion going the rounds of some of the papers is that relating to the non-existence or unreality of matter.

Ever since the development of Greek philosophy, or in fact, since the times of the Hindu theorists and writers this has been a question of deep interest to the speculative minds of many nations. The belief in the non-existence of matter was practically the belief of the ancient Brahmins. Their belief was that the exterior world or the world of the senses was an illusion, or Mala.

It is a little strange or peculiar that this belief or view is being revived in this age in some quarters. Is it a sign of degeneracy of the times? Or is it merely a phase of intellectual development, or both?

Comparing the habits and morals of the Brahmins with the habits and morals of the nations holding the Christian faith, we find the Hindu morals defective and corrupt comparatively. It is reasonable to infer that their habits and morals are very largely a result of their religious belief as is generally the case with nations and individuals. It must appear, then, inevitably that the revival of this faith is a sign of degeneracy, though possibly a more thorough knowledge and consequent sympathy with the faiths of the nations of the orient may result from the investigation of their history and religious development.

Brahminism, as can be readily seen, was and is strongly mystical, a seeking to get away from the things of the physical or outside world. (This largely from the disagreeableness or apparent inequalities or troubles from contact with things of the world or physical existence. In short, a placing of the origin of evil in material things and an attempt to run away from them.) However, the things of the senses, or the material world can not be run away from (except by the course of suicide), and after all is it best to run away from them? Is it not more likely, and vastly so, that a creator placed them here for our use, and also for us to overcome their apparent drawbacks or evils?

H. F. ANDREWS.

A Granger's View.

Albany, Or., April 24.—To the Editor of The Journal—Would you kindly give me the same publicity in "black print" as you have given C. N. McArthur, and I assure you I will not use scurrilous and abusive language. I would pose as a gentlemen, although a Linn county granger.

Is not the gentleman a little off regarding the "same people that were instrumental in holding up the general appropriation bill two years ago"? I think he is. He seems to glory in the thought that the appropriation of that year got through under the blanket with the penitentiary and asylum necessary appropriations. But, Mr. McArthur, you will not have that old blanket on this occasion. And as to the cost to the state that you mentioned, you know that is next to nothing. Professor Campbell has figures that will prove to you that the extra expense to the state would not amount, for each voter, to what he would pay for two cigars. So, Mr. McArthur, don't let that worry you.

Now is it not a little strange if people are so favorably disposed toward the University of Oregon, $125,000 annually and allowing the board of regents to expend the same as they see fit to do, that President Campbell should need to send out his thousands of pamphlets, leaflets and interviews at the state's expense to the thousands of rational voters throughout the state? How strange that the litle handful of your "mossback" grangers of Linn could cause such turmoil in the camp of the enlightened. And some money could have been saved the state had the professor viewed the matter as safe in the hands of the people. The state of Oregon is paying the professor $4,000 per year while he is engaged in this work and in touring the state, while some of the others are paid $3,500 and are also engaged in the same calling.

Now let us be candid with each other and with the voters of the state. Let us have house bill No. 27 published in all the newspapers of the state, then your intelligent voters can read and vote understandingly. We will then see whether they favor a bill calling for an appropriation of $125,000 in a lump sum annually. And see their views in regard to the continuing fund, wherein a balance, should any remain, is never returned to the state but is carried over and added to the fund of that year.

There has been some inquiry also concerning the amount paid for the campus of that institution. Is the state to pay $25,000 for 20 acres for that purpose? And did the whole tract of 210 acres sell last fall for $20,000, $5,000 less than the 20-acre tract was sold for? This should be explained; the average voter is liable to become confused. And don't you think the public schools should have more encouragement, more money and better teachers? The child of the public school gets $7 while the student of the University of Oregon costs the state $313 per capita. And do you think the University of Oregon would be crippled, as President Campbell says it is, on an $80,000 basis?

EUGENE PALMER.

Linn County Wants the Referendum.

Brownsville, April 24.—To the Editor of The Journal—The referendum petitions in Linn county are being signed up fast. Nearly all of the voters readily sign the petitions. The granga is working hard on the referendum, and it is said if Linn county could settle this matter it would do so by a vote of three to one in favor of the referendum.

This tax in Linn county on the university appropriation will mean $4,000 to the taxpayers, while we have only three students there, which would make a tax of nearly $1,400 apiece, and the taxpayers consider this an awul burden to the county.

Taxpayers are asking the question, Why can the Agricultural college, with nearly the same original appropriation as the university, provide for three or nearly four times as many students?

The work done by these schools is about the same grade. Possibly Oregon does not provide for its university as well as some other states, but our state provides more generously for our normal schools, both in number of schools and the amount of appropriations, which more than counteracts the appropriations for the university.

Linn county will be in favor of giving this appropriation to the county roads and the public schools, where we contend it could be much more profitably spent.

Our great number of normal schools which we have to keep up takes enough of the taxpayers' money without this enormous appropriation, and old Linn will do her best to vote it down.

FRED E. HARRISON.

Small Change

So soon, there is a cry for mud instead of dust.

* *

Many are of the opinion that the Coffey is strong.

* *

A good many men would like a federal job of sampling whiskey.

* *

To make an average, a hot old summertime may be expected.

* *

The president wants the dove of peace to have long, sharp claws.

* *

The bigger the Standard Oil fines, the higher the price of oil and things.

* *

Still, not a great many people will worry about a tombstone shortage.

* *

So far, the president has not been accused of favoring Shaw for his successor.

* *

If ex-Senator Burton is still talking and writing, the country at large doesn't know about it.

* *

Yet, though Ruef is not convicted, it would scarcely be out of place to say he is an undesirable citizen.

* *

Jamestown would have been much obliged if the enactment of that anti-pass law had been deferred a year.

* *

The governor of New York cannot see why the ticket should not be Hughes and Taft, rather than Taft and Hughes.

* *

Mr. Coffey evidently regards the action of the Republican central committee as a specimen of pernicious activity.

* *

Secretary Taft thinks that since he can manage Cuba, Panama, Porto Rico and the Philippines, he can hold down the lid in Ohio.

* *

It would be rather a joke upon Mr. Thomas if Mayor Lane, though not a candidate, should beat him in the Democratic primary.

* *

"Bourne Working Roosevelt" is the headline in an exchange. But Roosevelt seems tolerably well able to look out for himself.

* *

Curious: a lot of Republican newspapers are praising Roosevelt because he is like Andrew Jackson, whom they have always inferentially if not specifically denounced.

* *

The only thing Senator Beveridge cannot understand is why another Indiana man should be talked of as a candidate for president.

* *

Denying a report that she was to marry, Marie Corelli asks, "What do I want with a husband?" And surely no sane man wants Marie for a wife. So she and mere men are agreed for once.

Oregon Sidelights

The Newberg council has bought a $300 road grader.

* *

Amity will probably get a milk condenser and cannery this year.

* *

With mohair selling at 30 cents, the goat raisers are also doing quite well, thank you.

* *

The best crops they have had for 25 years is what the Agency Plains farmers are counting on.

* *

A Grant county man who shot and killed a sheep claims it was so far away he thought it was a ground squirrel.

* *

From Roseburg to Coos Bay is the most direct and only feasible route over which to build a road, says the Roseburg Spokesman.

* *

Slowly but surely those things are developing that will make Baker City a place of 20,000 or more population inside of a very few years, says the Democrat.

* *

Prunes, cherries, peaches and all sorts of fruits are greatly increased in acreage around Milton. Spraying and otherwise taking care of the orchard is general this spring.

* *

The result of the analysis of some of our Harney valley soil is very gratifying as it shows that practically every acre will produce profitable crops, says the Burns Times-Herald.

* *

Replying to slurs of some local contemporaries, the Yoncalla Courier says: "In the absence of a Greek scholar, that I might couch my language in more delicate terms, you can go to h——l."

* *

The loganberry growers of Brooks, Clear lake and Lake Labish have formed an association to promote their interests and to work in concert for the selling of their berries at the best possible prices.

* *

Gervais Star: There is a great scarcity of help in the hop yards, and laborers command from $1.50 to $1.75 per day, and are scarce at that. It now looks as though many yards will go poorly cultivated this year.

* *

The Dalles Chronicle: A black load well loaded was backed up at the city jail yesterday afternoon and when it was dumped it proved to be two husky Siwashes, a squaw and a pappoose. They were outside of too much firewater.

* *

Silverton correspondence of Salem Statesman: At the rate property is changing hands, Silverton will soon all be in new hands. L. E. Rauch and William Bowser have bought 80 lots and will soon erect fine houses on them. Several other pieces of property have changed hands recently.