

THE JOURNAL

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Philosophy triumphs easily over past, and over future evils, but present evils triumph over philosophy.—Rochefoucauld.

DON'T FORGET PORTLAND.

A TROUBLOUS, panicky time has been expected and predicted for several years. It had to come. At the gall of a good many people were overriding prosperity it was inevitable.

This being pretty well understood as the general fact of the situation, Portland—and by "Portland" we mean every organization and person of potentiality—should turn its attention more away from this passing squall, and toward some of the large things that it should be constantly striving to accomplish.

When monetary matters return to a normal condition; when the courts have passed upon the bond proposition, and when finally the required bonds have been sold, Portland can move forward more rapidly than heretofore.

JUST AS EXPECTED.

THE PRESIDENT has expressed himself so often and so fully in public that there is little that is novel in his message. He said about what everybody knew beforehand he would say.

The president urges that the federal government should control not only railroads but other interstate corporations. He advises some changes in the interstate commerce law, particularly one allowing railroads to make combinations as to rates, under government supervision.

On the currency question he quotes and reiterates his recommendations of last year for an "emergency" or "asset" currency. This, issued under strict government supervision, and heavily taxed, 6 or 7 percent, he thinks would infuse elasticity into the currency system.

An income tax and an inheritance tax are advocated, especially the latter, and he intimates that a law might be drawn for the former that would meet the approval of the supreme court.

to express an opinion in any given case than an ordinary citizen or even physician, yet we think that such questions and the evidence elicited thereby are a good deal of a farce.

On the subjects of forests, timber, the public lands and irrigation the president dwells at length, and generally takes a position that will meet with public approval.

There are a series of essays of considerable length, one good one on the importance of farmers in a country. In the execution of the laws, the president says, there are two great evils, sentimentality and technicality.

Improvement of waterways is commended, of the Mississippi in particular. A good word is said for the Seattle fair. The parcels post and postal savings banks are recommended.

RIVERS AND HARBORS CONGRESS.

ANOTHER congress besides the Congress will meet in Washington this week, namely, the Rivers and Harbors Congress. It can enact no legislation, but it can and will exert an influence on the Congress in support of liberal support for the improvement of the country's rivers and harbors.

The project for a canal from the Great Lakes to the Gulf, and for adequate Mississippi river levees, which it is understood the president will advocate in his message, is so extensive as to be in a class by itself.

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ALIENISTS' TESTIMONY.

IN THE TRIAL of Mrs. Bradley, the alienist answering a hypothetical question of 15,000 words is to the fore again. Without denying or doubting that men who have made a study of mental diseases and have had much experience in diagnosing them, are better qualified

to express an opinion in any given case than an ordinary citizen or even physician, yet we think that such questions and the evidence elicited thereby are a good deal of a farce. This conclusion is pretty well established by the fact that in almost any murder case similar to that of Thaw or Mrs. Bradley, the alienists themselves diametrically disagree.

These detectives were removed without charge, and in order to sustain the charter of the city of Portland itself and protect the civil service provisions in it, it is the duty of every Republican member of this council to vote for this ordinance.

The principal facts, that could be presented in a few hours, are all that the jurors care to know, or need to know. In such a case as that of Mrs. Bradley they care nothing about these technical opinions as to insanity.

A SOLAR PLEXUS BLOW.

COMMENTING on the high price of print paper the Oregonian remarked: "One of the consequences of the high price of paper, therefore, will be improvement or elimination of poor and flashy journalism."

The Oregonian writer is correct in his hypothesis. The Journal will continue to be sold at 2 cents a copy on the streets, or 10 cents a week, delivered by carrier.

After experimenting for some months with a morning edition, the Seattle Times will give it up and confine itself to its evening edition, which has always been a great success.

An alienist decided that Mrs. Bradley was some years ago an abnormal woman and therefore insane because she took an interest in politics. But we hope that it is not to be concluded that all female woman suffragists are insane.

It is said that President Roosevelt deposits his salary in a bank as soon as he receives it. You can't blame Teddy when you look at some of the people that hang around the White House.

A Memory of a Lost Delight.

A fireplace anyone may have, and to me the wonder is that our civilization has abolished the fire soul from our hearts. There is no longer the joy of the household, but the slave, imprisoned in the cellar, Ah, but it was delicious when the fire was lit, and hanging the long festoons of quarters from the beams.

A Fancy From Fontenelle.

The Rose in the garden slipped her bud, And she laughed in the pride of her heart, And she thought of the Gardener standing by— He is old—so old! and he soon must die.

Humane Suggestion.

Knicker—My son, this hurts me more than you. Johnny—Well, pa, why don't you take chloroform before you begin?

Letters From the People

Portland, Or., Dec. 3.—To the Editor of The Journal:—That a lie which is half a truth is ever the blackest of lies, is a truism. That a lie which is all a lie may be met and fought with outright; but a lie which is part a truth is a hard matter to fight.

In your leading editorial of Sunday you quote me as having stated at the meeting of the council last Wednesday as follows: "Every Republican in the city council should pay the money."

What I did say was to this effect: "I am a believer in the civil service provisions of the charter of the city of Portland, and with all due respect to my Democratic brethren I call attention to the fact that one of the greatest champions of the civil service was Grover Cleveland. There can be no question but what these men were removed without charge, and in order to sustain the charter of the city of Portland itself and protect the civil service provisions in it, it is the duty of every Republican member of this council to vote for this ordinance."

No charges were brought against them as provided by the organic municipal law, and no action was taken by any board or tribunal (not even the legislative board) subject to removal by the mayor and nothing was done even after Judge Sears, an eminent judge, and his attorney-general, Thomas G. Greene, was absolutely void and without any pretense of being legal.

The fact that President James J. Hill of the Northern Pacific, and President Finley of the Southern Railway, have accepted invitations to address the National Rivers and Harbors congress, at its meeting at the New Willard, Washington, December 4, and 5, and that I did in the work of the congress in bringing about a fixed national policy of inland waterway and harbor improvement, is in itself one of the strongest possible arguments in favor of the adoption of that policy by the congress of the United States.

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The Errand

He was neatly dressed, but his clothes were patched, the kid that I met. As I hurried home at midday to the annual Thanksgiving eat. And the wind was blowing like sixty, and the snow was falling fast.

I thought of the Thanksgiving days on the farm, when I was a youngster, too. And what they all meant, and looked at the kid and said, "This'll never do; come along, old man (I called him) and have a good square with me."

"Come along now"—I caught his shoulder and you needn't go shaking your head. And "spite of saying 'I darsent,' right into the house he was led, where the women folk fixed up a plate and popped him into a chair, and he, with occasional "darsents," went after his turkey for fair.

When he'd polished his plate he looked nervous and clearly wanted to say something. But we choked the youngster's objections with about an acre of pie. He cleaned that pie like a good "un"—"was a pumpkin, the old-fashioned kind."

And tates like a benediction and leaves a rapture behind. And the child wasn't used to kindness; I takes a hard words came more in his way. But we shut him up in a jiffy and slipped out of his "buds" and into an armchair with a lapful of apples and nuts.

We kept him snug for an hour and a half, and he was better. And it took us near thirty minutes to find out the reason why. He said he'd been kicked by his father, the poor little trembling wail, and he kept on crying and crying, though we told him we'd keep him snug.

We pitied the poor little fellow, with such an inhuman dad. And asked him why he'd been beaten and kicked, and he said he'd been bad. The eyes of the women grew tearful as they soothed the poor little kid. And I said, "Come on, what's the matter? Tell us just what you did," and he sobbed, "The whole family's waitin' and thinkin' how long I takes to get home."

They'd sent me out when you grabbed me to buy the Thanksgiving steak." —C. B. Quincy.

RUBBER BAND MORALITY

From the St. Paul News. Here's a rubber band. The distinction of a rubber band is that it stretches.

It will fit just as well around a teacup as it will around a child's building block. Differences of size and shape are nothing to the rubber band. It accommodates itself to many shapes and many sizes.

Our ideas of morality are very much like so many rubber bands. You wouldn't call yourself a cheat. Then why didn't you remind the conductor of your fare this morning?

It was a fraud, you know it. You stretched your rubber conscience. You wouldn't admit that you were a liar, but you got out of it by laughing about it or saying that it's a good joke on the street car company, or that it doesn't amount to anything.

It is not alone freight rates that bring pained conditions to trade and commerce. The freight congestion brings the greater and the longer enduring palsy and the railway interests no less than commercial and manufacturing interests, are now appreciative of the fact.

Great and beneficial though the extension of railway facilities may be, and are, they have been physically and absolutely incompatible with the demands of the wonderful development of all interests in the United States. Their officials frankly admit the fact, and are turning to the inland waterway as the means of relief from freight congestions than which there could be nothing more completely detrimental to trade and commerce.

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The Palsy of Congestion

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Punish the Land Grabbers.

From the Washington Post. Doubtless the government knows exactly what it is doing. Perhaps the purification of California politics may be more important just now than the prosecution of alleged land grabbers. It is true that Mr. Hearst's prosecution of Harriman. It ought to be possible to find some one capable of carrying on the good work of graft prosecution in Oregon. The great record made by Secretary Hitchcock should not be followed by a policy of mere idleness and oblivion.

Reflections of a Bachelor.

From the New York Press. Men are all their writing of love letters before they are married; a woman can keep it up forever. "The most important thing about a woman's eyes is they can say so much without meaning a bit of it. When a girl's hair is nice and curly she never has any real doubts. The harder it is raining the surer a girl who has to be out in it is won't hurt her. A woman doesn't have to be very good to be better than the best man that lives."

Small Change

"Hah for the weather, whatever it is. Look more for the good, less for the bad."

Now who says Bryan is a calamity-bowler? There might be worse bosses than Uncle Joe. I accept clearing-house certificates.—Santa Claus.

Who has more trouble than a professional funmaker? The usual number of people won't read the message. The currency will be reformed by its friends of course. We suppose Judge Lowell would not consider the vice-presidency.

A man doesn't need to have any money to know all about it. Come, Dad Knickerbocker, show up your hand and lose up the pot. But shouldn't an actor have a right to marry as often as an actress? "The election passed off quietly" in a number of Oregon towns yesterday. It's December, but there are roses in bloom in Portland, as usual at this time of year.

John Hot Air is a prominent Oklahoma Indian. Why wasn't he sent to the senate? Perhaps we will learn that we could get along without so many courts and so much lawing. What seems to be needed in New York is a divorce of the banks from Wall street speculation. The Republican party isn't really as bad as some people might imagine from the Oregonian leveler. The baby king of Spain has been made a military officer. He has been up in arms nearly ever since he was born.

What the Eugene Guard doesn't know about "the financial situation" would make, in quantity, a presidential message. Future generations, if they read about present trials in our courts, will wonder that we called ourselves civilized. Perhaps Secretary Taft is hurrying home to find out what is the matter with Cleveland and Toledo. Why couldn't they be good, like Cincinnati?

And is this J. J. Morgan, whom the president consults, the same to whom President Cleveland sold the bonds? Yes, but he was a Democrat then and is a Republican now. It was long ago that a man named Eggleston said—what is just as true today: "None therefore, who is anxious, is free; but whoever is released from grief and fear and anxiety is by that very thing released from slavery."

Oregon Sidelights

Myrtle creek now has an electric light plant in operation. Fine English wainuts are also raised around Myrtle Point. A Cottage Grove man will set out a pear orchard of 35 acres. Good beef is obtained from the range the year round in Curry county. A 600-acre ranch near Jacksonville is to be cut up and sold in small tracts. For the first time the attendance at the La Grande public schools exceeds 1,000. There have been at least 15 people in town this week looking for houses to rent, says the Jacksonville Post. A Fayette man raised over 600 turkeys, holding them like sheep. They averaged, when dressed, 29 pounds each. Clatsop county, claims an Astoria pauper, has aiel oil, containing gas, potassium, and iron sand, in endless quantities. A couple named McBride, living near Weston, have eight sons living, and 56 grandchildren, who assembled at Thanksgiving, according to a Walla Walla paper. Daisy Dell correspondence of Toledo Leader: "I'm glad to hear that you are in the small streams that empty into the ocean, that the school children catch them with their hands. Toledo Leader: We hereby offer an apology for the blank look which the Leader has this week, but owing to yesterday's holiday, and the editor in chief getting too much turkey, he is sick all day today. It is most gratifying news to the people of Grants Pass, and particularly those interested in mining in Josephine county that the American Gold Fields company will soon resume operations on its big Granite Hill mines of Louse creek district, says the Courier. Hood River News Letter: Mosler deserves all that may be said of her advantages as a fruit section and has so demonstrated on more than one occasion. And now that they have a commercial club organization, with wide awake and progressive men at its head, we may reasonably look for others to take note of her success. There are no further developments regarding the recently discovered outbreak of the epidemic of typhoid fever among the same. They range from a spouting stream 100 feet high, through the canyon of the Klamath Falls, to a slight overflow at Scorpion Point, says the Klamath Falls Herald. Probably the report that the lake would go dry was mostly based on imagination. The Myrtle Creek frume will be eaten by more people this year than ever before, and throughout a wider scope of old earth's area, says the Hall. One pair went to London, England, by way of New York, five went to New York, four to Chicago, two to St. Louis, 1 to Milwaukee, one to Pittsburg, one to St. Paul, and four to Albany, and one to Roseburg. Of the first dry Sunday in Condon the Globe writes: "The wind blew, the rain descended and the floods came" it was hard to realize at that moment the town was "dry." Scores of men promaded the streets all day with the hope that some miracle might open a welcoming door wherein a solo game might break the monotony and thus end that awful feeling of loneliness. The only thing to do was for the homeless wanderers to gather in groups and talk over the situation—some of a lost home. Towards evening the men became more composed, the gatherings broke up and one by one these wanderers wended their way to seek rest and slumber. Encouraging. From the New York Sun. The camel regarded the eye of the needs. "Go on," encouraged the rich man. "Suppose you had to get through a revolving door." Thus indeed, do we see that hope springs eternal.

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