

THE JOURNAL

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The past gone, seize today— Fool! All that is at all, lasts ever, past recall: Earth changes, but thy soul and God stand sure. —Browning.

A NEW YEAR.

NEW YEAR'S DAY. Another year has begun. The annual holidays are over. Now for new victories of peace. Locally, in state and city, we shall make much progress this year, perhaps more than in any previous year.

Though there are some persistent holdovers, to which The Journal often alludes, Oregon was never so prosperous, never faced so bright prospects. All its people should be thankful, happy, that they have the good fortune to live in so highly favored a state, and ought to be glad to do something, what little they can near at home, to show their appreciation of it, and of their home city or neighborhood, and to aid it to become a better place in every way during this year.

LA FOLLETTE.

AN ARLETA reader asks The Journal to give a sketch of Senator La Follette's career, adding: "From what I have heard of La Follette I am inclined to think that he is the American people's greatest champion for better and cheaper transportation and just taxation." There is evidence to sustain this view.

Robert M. La Follette was born in Wisconsin in 1855; graduated from the state university in 1879, was admitted to practice law in 1880, and the same year was elected district attorney of Dane county and was reelected in 1882. He was elected representative in congress in 1884, '86 and '88, but by machine influence was defeated in 1890. He was a delegate to the Republican national conventions in 1896 and 1904. He was elected governor in 1900, and reelected in 1902 and 1904; and in 1905, while yet governor, was elected to the senate, taking his seat in 1906.

As a member of the house, La Follette, by his devotion to the people's interests and his occasional independence of party control, became obnoxious to the Wisconsin Republican machine, which was in close alliance with the railroads and other corporations and the timber barons. Hence he was thrown out of congress, and the utmost influence of the machine was used, each time he ran, to defeat him for governor, but he had gained the confidence of the rank and file of the party and of the people generally to such an extent that he was each time victorious.

As governor he perhaps did more for the people than the governor of any state has done for many years. He brought about the enactment of a primary law, similar to that in Oregon, and so broke up the ring and put the bosses out of business. He devised and insisted on a system of taxation of corporations, especially railroads, in consequence of which the people of Wisconsin pay no direct state tax whatever, and the treasury and especially the school fund are overflowing with money. He also brought about a regulation of freight rates, of further benefit to the people of millions of dollars. La Follette did not do all this easily. In the first place he studied the questions he brought forward, day and night, and knew every phase and detail of them. He was a first class lawyer, and so saw to it that the bills passed were constitutional. One or two legislators failed to pass these bills, but he kept hammering away and campaigning among the people and insisting that they should send the right kind of men to the legislature, until he won. And all this time the United States senators, most of the prominent Republicans, were doing everything in their power to defeat

him and stop his work. The last time he ran for governor the old regular Republicans put up a candidate against him to divide the vote, and the Democrats nominated an ex-governor, George W. Peck, yet La Follette won by a large plurality. He had educated the people at last.

Almost as soon as La Follette took his seat in the senate the rate bill came up for discussion, and though he was a new member and according to custom and senatorial courtesy should have kept quiet, he made a long speech advocating certain amendments calculated to strengthen the bill and make it serve its ostensible purpose. Not a Republican except himself in the senate voted for these good amendments; and the senate tried to ostracize La Follette for speaking while yet a new member. But the country took note of his effort, and remembers it.

If the "Roosevelt policies" are what they are popularly supposed to be; if the Republican party means to go forward and not backward in serving the interests of the masses as against those of the classes, then La Follette is conspicuously the "logical candidate" for the Republican nomination for president next year. But he will not be nominated.

Taft's Speech.

MR. TAFT'S principal Boston speech, so far as telegraphic reports show, was a good one, with which the average citizen will in most if not all points agree. He stated the causes of the recent panic concisely and clearly, and fairly showed that the administration was not responsible for it, except as it was an indirect consequence of the administration's performance of a plain duty, that of executing the laws. He took considerable pains and many words to show that the administration has no malevolent purpose inimical to honest men who are lawfully engaged in very large enterprises, but we think that not many men honestly believe that the president ever had any such purpose. In fact, it is too absurd for such high official denial.

If one were bound to criticize the able and amiable secretary of peace, the criticism might be directed to his assertion that the administration and some Wall street millionaires restored confidence and saved the country great calamity, and to his assumption that the president's war upon "malefactors of great wealth" has been fought out and won. Mr. Taft's optimism is creditable and commendable, but we would better keep down somewhere near the earth in considering these subjects. The administration and Morgan doubtless did something to restore confidence and help out the situation, because the people knew something was being done, but what they did and the way they did it will not bear analysis. At the best it was a case of doing evil that good might come. And as to the president's war on trusts and other law-breaking corporations, he has only been skirmishing as yet. The \$29,400,000 Standard Oil fine is the principal tangible result, and it is a safe 10 to 1 bet that this will never be paid. Roosevelt has stirred up the animals, but they are all alive yet, and with full sets of teeth.

CONCRETE.

IT SEEMS probable that reinforced concrete will come into use much more than it has in the construction, not only of large buildings, but of bridges and aqueducts. In fact, the tendency to substitute it for wood, brick or stone is already quite noticeable. Cases for long-time tests as to durability and utility are not numerous, but such as are available appear to prove that this substance is eminently satisfactory. It is said to be practically indestructible; at least it is more nearly so than any substance except very durable stone; it is impervious to the elements; it is nearer earthquake proof than any other building substance, and it is asserted that the reinforcing steel imbedded in it suffers no impairment. If all this be true, and if it be also true that concrete makes a cheaper building material than steel or brick, it may reasonably be expected that it will rapidly gain in favor as a building material. This may be important not only in securing more durable buildings, but in modifying or restricting to some extent the exactions of the steel trust and other combines that control building materials—though probably there will be if there is not already a concrete trust also.

THE PEOPLE SHOULD SPEAK UP.

THE LEADING politicians in congress do not want any river and harbor bill passed this winter for two reasons. First, they want to keep down appropriations as much as they can, without cutting off any graft, so as to make a showing of economy for campaign purposes next fall. They—that is, the Republican leaders who are running things—think that small appropriation figures will gain some votes, imagining that the voters will look no farther than the sum total of the figures. This, they know, will be pretty large, and they fear to add \$50,000,000 or even half that much for needed improvements of rivers and harbors. Second, most of these leaders are very friendly to the railroads, which

are not in favor of opening up the rivers and digging canals. Although it is manifest that the railroads cannot do the business offered, are not anywhere near keeping up with the growth of traffic, they are generally opposed to the improvement of waterways.

It is up to the people to demand of congress, in every way and by every voice possible, that the appropriation asked for by the rivers and harbors commission be made, and that the work of opening up our waterways be promptly and continuously carried on. By every means in their power the people should require congress to represent them and legislate in their interest in this matter, regardless of the secret influence of railroad officers and the petty politics of a few party leaders.

WOMEN WORKERS.

CENSUS REPORTS of 1900 are still being made. It is supposed they will be pretty well wound up by 1910, when another census will be taken. The census bureau is a good deal of a farce, but it gives employment to a great number of faithful constituents of congressmen. This is the principal reason for a permanent census bureau, though its work is probably of some benefit.

Among other information coming creeping along seven years late, is a report on the number of women engaged in "gainful occupations." In 1900 it was 5,007,009, as against 3,712,144 in 1890, an increase of nearly 1,300,000. Over 1,000,000 of these were colored women, and many of them immigrants. Some of the increases in the decade were as follows: Law from 208 to 1,010, stenographers 21,214 to 85,912, architects 327 to 1,037, clergymen 1,143 to 3,405, janitors, etc., 2,803 to 8,025, bookkeepers 27,606 to 73,820, telegraph and telephone operators 8,403 to 22,454, nurses 41,396 to 108,978, saleswomen 57,171 to 146,577, journalists 888 to 2,193, laborers 50,321 to 111,503, miscellaneous manufacturing 71,978 to 150,627, hired householders 86,989 to 147,103, landladies 215,121 to 332,665, farm laborers 363,554 to 497,880, teachers, etc., 245,830 to 327,905, dressmakers 290,308 to 342,579, servants, etc., 1,145,255 to 1,213,528. Seamstresses, one of the oldest callings, decreased from 143,339 to 143,270.

These figures indicate that domestic and personal service is decreasing in importance as an occupation for women, while more independent callings are attracting a rapidly increasing number. Stenographers, typists and nurses are in great demand. In bookkeeping and telegraph and telephone operating and other trade and transportation enterprises, a great army of women find work. A young woman of fair education and capability doesn't have to marry these days, as she used to. Whether this is a gain to society or not is a debatable question.

Has anything worth while been gained by arresting that ex-clergyman and the girl he ran away with, to take them back from San Francisco to New York for trial? He left the ministry of a rich fashionable church to run away with a girl, who has become the mother of a child; he was earning an honest living as a decorator and supporting her. Both their lives, in their old homes and positions were utterly spoiled. The wrong had been done, and could not be righted, or he was doing what he could to right it. O yes, he ought to be punished, yet what real gain will it be to anybody to punish him, and her, and the baby?

Women, it is reported, are to be excluded from the Thaw trial. Though women are denied the ballot, haven't they any rights left that men, even courts, are bound to respect? Don't some women enjoy such a trial even more than any men do? And if adults, and they behave themselves, why haven't they as much right there as men with no business there either?

In pointing with pride to our banks and bankers and their record for the past year, we have to make an occasional exception. Important arrival last night at midnight; a visitor who will remain a year, named Nineteen Hundred and Eight.

The agitation for a 3-cent fare in Portland is probably rather premature, though it may be due before many years.

In looking over the business career of the late head of the Golden Eagle store, the district attorney's office thinks it can't "Low it."

This, we may reasonably hope, will be a year of safe and sane banking, and no local bank failures.

Set a high mark, but not too high. Be bold, but not too bold.

None is so poor as one who lacks hope and self-respect.

Born, at exactly 12 o'clock last night, a New Year.

The taking over of the late Oregon Trust & Savings Bank by the Ger-

man-American, insuring the payment of depositors in full, will help to make a happy new year in Portland.

It is quite easy to make a good resolution.

Letters From the People

The Crematory Again. To the Editor of The Journal—It is not strange that every section of the city is determined not to accept the garbage crematory as a Christmas gift. The residence district, east side nor west side, care for it as a neighbor, and the stores and factories declare it will be harmful to business and health. Various committees have taken the matter under advisement and the last spurt was to determine which of many high-priced locations should be chosen. It is a question, in addition, and not a mere matter of having the nice garbage burner on their block and the stiring of carts waiting at their doors by their odorous loads. But they are prejudiced. Meantime there seems to be a fixed purpose to locate this needed institution in the heart of the city.

We are assured that we must have a short haul and that the geographical location of the crematory is of great importance. In comparison with this note the attitude of the committee of Baltimore, Maryland, who have just been on a tour of garbage disposal, and who have a view of incorporating such improvements as they found.

After visiting Pittsburgh and other places, the committee reported that the only improvement they could suggest was to put their crematory five miles farther out of the city. Baltimore, the city of Johns Hopkins university and close to Washington, D. C., is probably better equipped than any other place in the country. The wealth, the learning, and the progressive spirit prevailing there should be a lesson to our city. Here he had three years' experience keeping accounts and thereby getting acquainted with the financial side of railroading. Then he became second vice-president of the Central Vermont, where he learned the engineering side of his chosen work. In 1880 he became auditor of the old Boston & Lowell road, and from there reached the proud position of traffic manager of the railroad road. He returned to New England to become general traffic manager of the New York & New England road, resigning after six months to become second vice-president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford. Then, in a two-minute telephonic conversation, he was made president of the Northern Pacific. When he accepted this position he is reported to have

Knighthood. In days of old, the belted knight Went forth on prancing steed, To break a lance for truth and right Or lady fair in need. Their names are long with glad acclaim, And ring in deathless lays, The daring deeds that knights of fame Have wrought in bygone days.

Old moat and castle keep, And dim the towers in scenery fast In long and dreamless sleep, Until the crestled knight appears, And with his sword and shield, And in love and life once more.

We gaze on him who sought the cup That Christ on Thursday eve Once blessed. By angels taken up And guarded, may perceive Rescued from the worst knight - From lustful passion free That knight, whose sword in cause of right, Flashed ever stainlessly.

Yes, true knights tread God's earth today As brave as those of yore, And as they so-called away To war on Paynim host. And pure as Arthur's stainless knight That fought in remoted spot, For God had love, or right, Or sought Christ's Holy Grail.

Love of God's holy church still fills Pure souls, and still enthral Fair virtue. Lady's beauty thrills Men's hearts forever. Honor calls, And old ideas are dear Nor yet have passed away. Thank God, true knighthood still is here.

Tommaso Salvini's Birthday. Tommaso Salvini, the celebrated Italian tragedian, who is now critically ill, was born at Milan, January 1, 1829. He began to study for the stage at an early age. He made his debut when he was only twelve years of age in his profession. He joined heartily in the fight for Italian independence and was the personal friend of Mazzini, the greatest and most celebrated patriots of Italy. After the war he returned to the stage to achieve an unbroken series of triumphs. He was twice elected to the Italian parliament, and successfully appeared in all the capitals and leading cities of Europe. In 1871 he visited Brazil, and two years later appeared in the United States. He made his farewell visit to America in 1890 and was everywhere hailed as one of the greatest of living tragedians. Though he is now near fourscore years of age he continued to follow his profession with undiminished success until only a few years ago, when he permanently retired from the stage.

Unselfish Wall Street. From the New York World. Tears of gratitude were gashed from the stone figures on the pedestal of the stock exchange yesterday when the valued New York Times appeared with this touching editorial tribute to the goodness of Wall street: "These are indeed times which try men's souls, and the souls of New York are being tried in a way where are resources strained with such unselfishness for the public good as in Wall street at this moment. A generous and self-sacrificing institution of philanthropy? Where is your Salvation Army now? Where are your Little Sisters of the Poor? Where are all the hundreds of eleemosynary societies, orders and institutions whose names swell the pages of the Directory of charities in the United States. Plainly, a generation of vipers, scoldingly intent on its own carnal welfare, has allowed the greatest and the greatest organized charity in all the universe. The west in particular hates Wall street, and now we know that the west hates it because the west is jealous of Wall street's superior virtue and unselfishness. The children of evil pride, the children of the good, the pure and the beautiful."

They Don't Understand. From the Dayton (O.) Optimist. The Oregonian takes another fling at the "country press" because of its ignorance of the history and policies of the Republican party. There is much truth in this criticism for some of the boys seem to understand why the Republican does not alter the present corrupt tariff laws. A party of the ignorant brethren think that a good Democrat is a better official than a corrupt Republican, but no such considerations should be allowed to govern the relations between the "country press" and the Oregonian let all the brethren take their opinions from the columns of the Oregonian for a period of five years, and by then Uncle Harvey will be strutting around and saying, with pardonable pride, "I have done my duty and they don't understand."

WORK CREATES OPPORTUNITIES

By John Anderson Jayne. Recently a young man in the employ of one of the big steel corporations received a letter from the head of a department that read something like this: "Dear Sir—Are you open to a proposition from this company? We have followed your work with a considerable degree of interest, and believe that we can make it to your advantage to change your position and come with us. We guarantee you more opportunities to rise and a much better salary than you are now receiving. If you consider the proposition at all favorably, kindly consult with Mr. _____ of our operating department."

The above letter and incident, for which the author vouches, was received from the mail of a young man not very long ago. Asked why he supposed that the company who wanted him had written him, he made reply: "I sign every one of my sheets that are sent out. I put my best work into them. I am careful of my work, and in addition, and I think to have everything as exact and neat as possible."

It is a present day illustration of the truth, "Work creates opportunities." Over in another city there is another young man by the name of Charles S. Mellen, called by the World Today "the railroad lord of New England," who believes also that work creates opportunities. For 23 years Mr. Mellen, as a boy and a man, has been engaged in the railroad business. His first position was a clerk with the Northern railroad road, and from there he went to New England to become general traffic manager of the New York & New England road, resigning after six months to become second vice-president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford. Then, in a two-minute telephonic conversation, he was made president of the Northern Pacific. When he accepted this position he is reported to have

Tommy to Uncle Jack. By Wex Jones. Deer Unkel Jack u no The white mows you Gav me for a pett an it run away An The cat run after itt but the mows goed In2 A hole an the Cat coodent catch Itt wel now Hee is mad heo sez evvry place I go I find white mowes throo The hows they eet Up evvry thing ours is The only hows with White mowes in itt Jams Jonsun is Mad they have nun Inn his hows I saw A automobile in a Store windo mter the door That long walk O like them they goz Fast muther sez doo knot Ask peepel for things I Amm Knot ask a butt I Will rite I mean right 2 Sany Klaws for I like the hows

Tommy deer unkel jack pon sez Hee wishes u woody cum an talk Bak your mows an All its relashun. That water brown must talk bak The bool dog hee gav mee butt I have itt hid in the seller. Pop sez hee will kill muther coodent an it Out whare the stalk for diner An I pett idroped Itt down 2 the bool dog I eet the pi mifsel I did u notis The awto muther is out I cant spel the rest in the windo Of the seller I hope Sany will see itt will I sav the face of ml mter the dog face iss Bent butt its A fatherd dim broom Tommy deer unkel jack the bool dog is in the Kitcher sez chicken hen an mter hed an sed nobel animel u Hay savd its itt litt a burglar Last nite itt cut him an Bitt him in the seller On the legg woe mter the bool dog face iss The bool dog is A nobel watchdog an Gards us with Itts life A lesson 2 limit talk

Tommy deer unkel I like awtos doo u iff they woodent fitt In2 A stockin Wood Sany leev them fitt Hee woodent I dont want it wot Any thing an itt mter unkel doo knot forget Tommy deer unkel jack pon klicked att The bool dog butt mifsel Him hee sez itt is a watchdog that bites the trousers that feeds itt the bool dog had Gott out Of the seller wot hee A mter pon own pants an took them The seller sez wot it is itt was Knot a burglar att all an itt is Knot A nobel watch dog enny more Butt I dast mter mutt I hav itt hid in A close klost now the awtos dont cost verry much the Kind I mean Tommy

Pan at Bethlehem. Into the stable yard Pan crept, An And there in a manger a baby lay Beside his mother upon the hay. And mother and baby slept. Pan went over the sleeping child, Gazed upon him, panting after his run; And while he wondered, the little one Opened his eyes and said: "Smiled, and after a little space Struggled an arm from the swaddling band, And raised a tiny dimpled hand, Patted the bearded face. Something snapped in the breast of Pan. His heart and his throat and his eyes were sore, And he wished to weep as never before Since he was born. And out he went to the silly sheep, To the fox on the hill, the fish in the sea, The hen in the stall, the bird in the tree, Asking them how to weep. But they could not teach, for they did not know. The law stands writ for the beast that's dumb, That will mow aye, and a heart be numb, But never a tear can flow. So bear kindly today, O man, When that cry comes all that is wild. For the sake of the Christmas babe who smiled."

This Date in History. 1515—Louis XII of France died. Born 1462. 1551—Charles II of England crowned at Scene. 1776—American troops attacked Quebec. 1777—American congress authorized Benjamin Franklin to negotiate a treaty with Spain. 1807—Treaty of Presburg Austria lost Venice and the Tyrol. 1807—The British took the island of Curacao. 1815—Importation of slaves prohibited by act of American congress. 1815—The British attacked New Orleans. 1867—Gretna Green marriages suppressed by act of the British parliament. 1862—On demand of the British ministry the United States government surrendered Mason and Sillid. 1871—New tariff became operative in the United States. 1878—Spain payments resumed, after 17 years' suspension. 1901—Commonwealth of Australia inaugurated at Sydney. 1905—Fall of Port Arthur.

Worth Remembering. The earl, after the tiff, humbly offered her arm. "Lotta Golde, with frigid hauteur. "Thank you; I don't need your support." "But I need yours," said the young man. Even in his vexation Lord Odo found it impossible to forget that this fair creature had \$5,000,000 in her own right.

Small Change

Bonaparte's excuse looks thin. No unusual holidays, please, 1908. Now, Brer Foraker, speak up again. Still Wall street is not quite happy. The w-t-r w-g-n-no, we've sworn off.

Nice, fine young fellow, isn't he—1908? Taft thawed out the Bostoners slightly. This ought to be the best year the ever was. Statement No. 1 is going to be a leading issue. Did Roosevelt cause all those mine explosions? The New Year look like he ban party gude fella.

Old Father Time's scythe has reaped another sheaf. Don't believe that a bad beginning makes a good ending. Now, spinsters, you may propose whenever you're ready. A man ought not to be obliged to travel 6,000 miles to register. The eclipse Friday will be a small affair in this part of the world. It will be a long time to wait for the opening of the baseball season.

But a lot of people will have to work for a living this year, the same as usual. "And the winters pass, like flakes of snow, and the summers like buds between." The new paper at Cliffs says The Journal is booming Joe Simon for senator. News. The miser keeps all his money—Albany Democrat. Not when he goes to bed. Pity the poor teachers and children, who will have to get busy again soon for several steady weeks.

It can't be that the Methodist ministers prefer darkness rather than light because their deacons are evil. Sunday funerals are prohibited in some Canadian towns, but people are allowed yet to die on Sunday. A good resolution is one to break the habit of using the same phrase in conversation every other sentence. Senator Fulton is not making himself very firm with the people of Oregon in the course he is taking with the appointment as United States district attorney if he would accept. Wonder if he could. And if so, what a curious person other candidates must consider him to be.

Oregon Sidelights. Crook county soil has been thoroughly soaked. Bandon Knights of Pythias will erect a 3-story temple. Pendleton is going to have regular monthly market days. Heavy rains have made southern Oregon mining men lumpy. Hood River has had to shovel snow from sidewalks already. Cougars made a Christmas dinner of Josephine man's seven hogs. Not a Linn county man is on the new bond of State Treasurer Steel. Some Josephine county men will dig up their hop vines and plant alfalfa. Work has been resumed on the oil well on Long Prairie, Tillamook county. Astoria is weeding out some of its most undesirable citizens, gamblers and pimps. The big marsh on the Klamath Indian reservation is to be drained and reclaimed. Over half a million sacks of wheat will have been shipped from Condon this season. A Klamath Falls man 70 years old, while waiting at a wedding party, fell dead of heart disease. A Dairyville jeweler is preparing to grind agates which are found numerously along the southern Oregon coast.

W. H. Dufur of Dufur has had 140 acres of his land laid off into 10-acre tracts. He has set a good example. A party of Albany business men will make a "boating" tour of the Pacific coast. That won't be waking up. Among a Jacksonville man's fine vegetable are a radish weighing 13 1/2 pounds, a beet 16 1/2 pounds and a monster cabbage. Grants Pass Courier: It is very nice to have fresh strawberries and raspberries at this time. At here, at the verge of the holiday season, as many a family in Josephine county is now having.

Ashland is fast attaining considerable importance as a cherry producing section, and several well posted men predict that in a few years Ashland will be better known for its cherries than for its peaches, says the Tidings. A railroad coming into central Oregon from the north could not, if it were desired to do so, miss Madras, says the Pioneer, and located as it is in the best case that has struck the land, this place will be an objective point.

Prairie City Miner: We have had the most remarkable fall weather this year ever experienced in this valley. It has been warm and rainy most of the time, and very favorable for the stockmen and farmers, and as a result a little hay has been fed to stock so far. The Madras flouring mill was idle all of last week on account of being out of four sacks again. This is the second shut down the mill has been forced to make on this account, and that is the only cause that has stopped the mill from grinding 15 hours each day since it commenced operations immediately after the new wheat was threshed.

Vale Gazette: The report came to town a couple of weeks ago that a small flow of oil had been struck in the well in Sand Hollow. A few days ago a stronger flow was reported. The drillers are going through a hard, solid rock which they believe is the capstone over the oil proper, and the oil which is coming is simply what is being forced up through the fissures for perhaps hundreds of feet. A few days ago a good pocket of gas was encountered, and it is possible that they may find it in large quantities. A few days ago about 450 feet a good flow of artificial water was encountered, enough to irrigate 10 or more acres of land from the well.