EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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A new chance, a new leaf, a new life—this is the golden, the unspeakable gift which each new day offers to you. —Frederic Farrar.

"PRINCIPLES."

ALEXANDER HAMILTON had the correct idea of a republican government; therefore vote 100 years afterward for the party that robs the people of a billion dollars a year for the benefit of the trusts. Webster took the right position three quarters of a century ago as to the nature of the union; therefore vote for a man for congress now who will stand in with the railroads in their determination to rule or ruin the country. Jefferson advocated a policy of state sovereignty that time has proved was impracticable; therefore be careful never to elect a man of Jefferson's party governor of any state during the twentieth century, even though he may be by far the better candidate for the office. Abraham Lincoln rose from a log cabin to become a towering champion of national unity and individual freedom; therefore let the saloons and local interests and grafters run your city if they happen to stand in with the Republican candidates.

Don't look at present circumstances, conditions, issues, tendencies or trends, or even at the candidates, at all; gaze back at those grand old Hamiltonian and Websterian principles; consider the clarity of Judge Marshall's reasoning; think of the Wilmot proviso, the Kansas-Missouri compromise and the firing on Fort Sumpter, and then if you love your country see to it that every one of the 90 members of the next legislature and all your county clerks and commissioners are Republicans.

For behold and remember, great "principles" are at stake. Just what they are and how they apply we don't know; no matter. They must be maintained by electing every Republican candidate for office, even if the corporations steal the people blind, if congress is composed of Storks and Logs, and if legislatures do everything that the people do not want and nothing that they do want. No matter about improved waterways, or a parcels post, or juster taxation, or clean public service; with none of these or a hundred other practical things have "principles" anything to do. Pay no attention to these trivialities, nor to the character of officeseekers; but at all hazards maintain the Republican party's "principles." Only thus shall we be saved.

JAPANESE ALERTNESS.

THE JAPANESE in this country are no doubt to us strangely observant, active and inquisitive, in certain directions. Americans attach an exaggerated importance to this, and it looks strangely suspicious in their eyes, because they do not understand Japanese national character well. With the Japanese the ego is nothing if not to the core national. It is not as individuals in a detached sense that they are egotistical, persistent, valorous, inquisitive, pugnacious, polite and unscrupulous, but as citizens of Nippon. To other immigrants their native land is after awhile but a mildly loved memory; to the Japanese it is always, until death, the soul of his earthly being. For it, wherever they migrate, they are ever full of thought and purpose. If a Japanese lived here 100 years he would still be thoroughly Japanese, in no sense or degree American.

This extreme, fervid national spirit is natural, inherited, but beyond that is cultivated constantly from infancy up. No people are so thoroughly educated along this line as the Japanese. To serve their country is their highest earthly ambition; to die in her behalf the greatest happiness. In every grammar school in Japan—and their schools in thoroughness and effectiveness of training are far superior to ours—all children beyond certain grades know all the principal details of every considerable battle of the Russo-Japanese war. They have learned it not so much from descriptions in words as from maps, hung in every schoolhouse. And this is only one instance of the Jap's training in national history and achievement—in patriotism.

The Japanese in this country are no doubt for war. They do not love the Americans overmuch, but that is not the reason; they thirst for more and greater glory for Japan. The only time the Japanese made open demonstrations of dissatisfaction with their government was when the treaty of Portsmouth was concluded. They felt that Japan had been robbed of the fruits of victory. They believed Russia could be completely conquered, and they ached to complete the job. And when very liberal terms were given Russia the Japanese populace was angry indeed. And these Japanese have no doubt that Japan could whip America, too. They know that America is great and strong, is indeed mighty; therefore all the more glory in beating this country. Anything is possible to Nippon, the chosen, favored land of the gods.

With these thoughts and ideas constantly in mind, it is easy to understand that no sooner do Japanese in America hear a rumor of war than they should on their own motion do everything possible to prepare themselves to engage in it, and in every possible way to aid their country. It is likely enough that all Japanese emigrants are taught to do this, are under general orders to do so. It may even be that after the war talk last year they received especial instructions to keep their eyes open and learn anything that might be useful to Japan in case of a future war. More likely they have acted, in nosing around forts, etc., on their own initiative and from natural bent of mind. As to drilling and holding secret meetings, a squad of Japanese would be likely to do that anywhere, at any time, on the merest yellow rumor of a possible war, and perhaps even without even that.

All this does not mean, nor in the least indicate, that Japan intends to fight the United States over the exclusion matter, or any other difference that may arise. The Japanese government is composed of long-headed men. They are "bold, but not too bold." They went to war with Russia because self-preservation required it. But they are not going to war for any small cause, especially with America. The Japanese authorities keep their populace ready for war, not afraid of war, eager for war if one is declared, but because some private Japanese citizens in a foreign country may be hot for war and trying to learn all they can about coast defenses and so on, it does not follow that the Japanese government contemplates war.

So let us not be too greatly alarmed if a Japanese is occasionally caught lurking and spying around a fort or a harbor. Even if he has been told to do this particular thing, which is improbable, one need not conclude that he has private information that a Japanese fleet is on its way to this coast.

COUNTRY WEEKLIES.

MR. BRYAN'S Commoner, in urging the establishment of a Democratic weekly in every county where there is none, says: "The country weekly has far more influence in proportion to its circulation than the city daily, first, because it has behind it a person who is known to the readers and whose character adds force to his words; second, because the weekly is read with more care. The country weekly comes much nearer reflecting the sentiment of the community than the large daily."

We think this is true—if. The "if" is a large one—if the owner and editor in one is a man who takes a lively, intelligent interest in affairs, general and local, and who not only publishes the local news fully and a summary of general news; but who is able and willing to comment honestly and lucidly, if briefly, upon current events. Because a country weekly is "independent in politics" is no reason why it should never have an opinion about anything, editorially expressed.

The country weekly is, however, a different affair in many instances in this region from what it is in eastern states. There no town or village of a few hundred people thinks of supporting a paper, nor any one of establishing one in such a place, the "country weeklies" being published in villages of from 3,000 to 8,000 inhabitants, such places as here aspire to a daily. So we cannot expect as much of country weeklies here as there, but considering the size of the towns in which they are published most of them make a very good showing.

U. S. VS. HARRIMAN.

AT LAST the government has brought the threatened suit against Harriman and others to compel the dissolution of the western railroad trust of which he is the head and controlling figure. It is alleged that this railroad combination controls the traffic of the whole country west of the Missouri river to the Pacific coast, south of Portland. Competition is a mere pretense. This whole vast region is under the control of an absolute transportation monopoly, with arbitrary powers, and millions of people are at its mercy. They would not care so much about this if they could get all the transportation they want, even at high figures, and if new regions of great resources were penetrated so that they could be settled and developed; but the Wall street tyrants act as if these states were their enemies, to be punished in the most effective way possible. So no building is done; the service is inadequate, and inconsiderate of the public; laws are ignored or resisted; thousands of needed workmen are laid off, apparently for political purposes; in brief, Harriman and his gang are wreaking vengeance on this whole region, but more especially on Oregon.

We do not expect any appreciable results from this case, even if the government should win it. These railroad men are as much smarter than the government, especially congress, as congress is smarter than the inmates of a home for the feeble-minded. Nothing will be accomplished until the government throws Harriman and all men of his type entirely out of the railroad business, and puts men like Rudolph Spreckels, for instance, in control. And at the present rate of injustice and injury exhibited by Harriman et al, this will not be many years hence. The whole country is becoming very tired of him and his ilk.

STATEMENT NO. 1.

THE JOURNAL is asked by several readers what Statement No. 1 is, and to explain it. The statement is reprinted elsewhere on this page. It is inserted in the primary election law as a pledge which any candidate for nomination as a member of the legislature may make to the voters. If he makes that statement publicly, in filing his petition for nomination, they will rely on his carrying out the statement, and that without reference to the politics of the man who has received the highest number of votes for United States senator at the preceding June election. If he declines to make that statement, voters will know that he will not be bound by the people's vote for senator. If voters desire to elect the senators themselves, and not leave the business to the legislature, they can secure this result only by voting in the primaries for men, of either party, who have made this statement. Demand of every legislative candidate, as a condition of your support in the primaries, that he subscribe unqualifiedly to this pledge.

A Washington county grange has spoken up promptly and definitely in favor of the parcels post, which the resolution declares the farmers favor and want. This was called out by the position taken by the recently elected president of the Hardware Dealers' association, a Washington county man, against the proposed parcels post. Those grangers have evidently read the arguments on both sides, and refuse to be guided by the opinions of country merchants who imagine their business would be injured by the parcels post. The grangers are not easily fooled any more.

Walter Wellman says Wall street has reformed, is now good, repentant and purified. He contradicts himself a moment later by saying Wall street is in the hospital. That is it; Wall street fell down in the gutter, was arrested, resisted, got beaten over the head; is bruised and battered and sick at the stomach, and probably just now remorseful; but all this doesn't prove reformation. Wall street is not sorry for anything it has done except on account of the unpleasant consequences to itself. When the devil was sick, the devil a monk would be.

"Ouida" died alone and in poverty, at the age of 68. She made a great deal of money, and how she became impoverished is not narrated in the dispatches. She was a woman of remarkable talent, and her stories have interested millions, and to that extent, if they had no bad influence, she was a benefactress. But nobody loved her on account of her books, nor, probably, judging from them, on personal acquaintance. But apparently there was "no love lost." She was at least less disagreeable, we judge, than the Corelli.

Representative Mann asked Chairman Tawney if duties on imports were not falling off in consequence of the prospect of tariff revision. Good hevings! If the revenues decrease so greatly at the present prospect of tariff revision, if the importers get scared at these slight and far-off symptoms, how many millions will we have to borrow two or three years hence, when the Republican party really begins to get ready to find out how to revise?

Gladys Vanderbilt was married today to Count Szechenyi, and long and circumstantial will be the reports of it. A rupture and a separation if not a divorce may be expected in a year or two. He is an exception, however, to the rule of foreign aristocrats who seek rich American brides; is said to have $2,000,000 of his own, while she has $12,000,000 in her own right. So they may manage not to fall out for two and a half or three years.

Oregon will get whatever Uncle Joe Cannon chooses to give her; therefore wouldn't it be policy to hold a great state mass meeting and declare him to be Oregon's choice for president?

The time for Ruef to plead will probably be set some time during the spring.

By the way, the big timberland thieves have never been prosecuted yet, and never will be.

Why Not Be a Thoroughbred?

By Carolyn Prescott.

Spot is a dog, as his name would indicate. His tail has been cut off about two inches from his backbone, as all stylish foxterriers are wearing theirs nowadays. He has sharp ears and eyes, and a sharp disposition to match. He moved into our neighborhood about six months ago, or, rather his family did, and he moved with them. As soon as he had sniffed about the rooms of the new house until he knew them all he commenced to get acquainted with his neighbors by going and calling upon all of them at all hours of the day and night. Now he is the friend and playmate of every man, woman and child in the neighborhood, but nobody knows Spot's family. They simply call them that —"Spot's family." Probably they have some other name, but we do not know what it is.

Sometimes Spot is a little too vigorous in his demonstrations of affection, particularly on one occasion that I remember distinctly, when he wiped his dewy feet over my very best white dress. But he did this because he was only a dog and knew no better, and because his little dog's heart was brimful of affection and good nature.

The family of which Spot is the most popular member consists of a wife and husband, a son and daughter, and an automobile. The old lady wears a lorgnette and a gray silk dress and goes to church twice every Sunday. The daughter is what might be designated as "snippy" by the other girls in the block. This is probably because she wears a long white coat and a blue veil when she goes out motoring, while her less fortunate sisters have to be content with street rides or walks in the park. The son is a cigarette fiend and a degenerate.

Nobody in the neighborhood knows them, and nobody in the neighborhood cares a rap. They sit upon their front porch and look out into the street, as isolated and alone as though they were Laplanders and had no neighbors for hundreds of miles.

They pass all of us without a nod, and nobody cares for them, and they care for nobody. Once in a while they have a caller or two, but they are too exclusive to mix with the rest of us. Sometimes they go out in their motor car, and then the rest of us heave a sigh of discontent, and wish we, too, had money enough to buy an auto.

Spot's family do not seem to have a nice time in spite of the fact that they live in a house that is the best in the street and own the biggest and reddest auto in our section of the city. The son and daughter are not invited to participate in the games and other festivities that go to make our neighborhood such a jolly place to live in. They look at us with a somewhat patronizing air, but they are not of us. Spot butts in once in a while, and especially when the young men of the neighborhood are playing ball. He helps the game along by running after the ball occasionally, and he is a welcome visitor in our homes.

But Spot's master and mistress are ignored entirely, because they are stuck up and are supercilious, and are not interested in us. They are too much concerned in their own affairs to take an interest in other people, so the other people let them severely alone.

But Spot is different. He is honestly interested in all that we do. He is a favorite because he is one of us. He is never so sleepy or tired that he cannot come at our call. Alert and busy always, he seems to belong to every one of us, and is as popular as his family is unpopular.

Spot is not proud. His little heart is big enough to be interested in all that we do. He is natural. He does not put on airs just because his people own an automobile and live in the biggest house in the block. In fact, Spot is a thoroughbred.

Autos and big houses and money do not make thoroughbreds of people. There must be something besides.

The Harpy--A Daughter of Capital

(By request, The Journal republishes this poem, by Robert W. Service.)

There was a woman, and she was wise;
woefully wise was she;
She was old, so old, yet her years all told were but a score and three;
And she knew by heart, from finish to start, the Book of Iniquity.

There is no hope for such as I on earth, nor yet in Heaven;
Unloved I live, unloved I die, unpitied unforgiven;
A loathed jade, I ply my trade, unhallowed and unshriven.

I paint my cheeks, for they are white, and cheeks of chalk men hate;
Mine eyes with wine to shine, that man may seek and sate;
With overhead a lamp of red I sit me down and wait.

Until they come, the nightly scum, with drunken eyes aflame;
Your sweethearts, sons, ye scornful ones —'tis I who know their shame.
The gods, ye see, are brutes to me—and so I play my game.

For life is not the thing we thought, and not the thing we plan;
And woman in a bitter world must do the best she can—
Must yield the stroke, and bear the yoke, and serve the will of man;

Must serve his need and ever feed the flame of his desire,
Though be she loved for love alone, or be she loved for hire;
For every man since life began is tainted with the mire.

And though you know he love you so and set you on love's throne;
Yet let your eyes but mock his sighs, and let your heart be stone,
Lest you be left (as I was left) attainted and alone.

From love's close kiss to hell's abyss is one sheer flight, I trow,
And wedding ring and bridal bell are will-o'-wisps of woe,
And 'tis not wise to love too well, and this all women know.

Wherefore, the wolf-pack having gorged upon the lamb, their prey,
With siren smile and serpent guile I make the wolf-pack pay—
With velvet paws and flensing claws, a tigress roused to slay.

One who in youth sought truest truth and found a devil's lies;
A symbol of the sin of man, a human sacrifice.
Yet shall I blame on man the shame? Could it be otherwise?

Was I not born to walk in scorn where others walk in pride?
The Maker marred, and, evil-starred, I drift upon his tide;
And he alone shall judge his own, so I his judgment bide.

Fate has written a tragedy; its name is "The Human Heart."
The Theatre is the House of Life, Woman the mummer's part;
The Devil enters the prompter's box and the play is ready to start.

Real Service.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

One of the best things that can be done at this time is to provide work for an industrious man out of employment. He will naturally look for it with all his might, and be glad of any hints likely to be of assistance.

Machines Unnecessary.

From the Topeka Capital.

Political machines, or "organizations", are not necessary to a party, much less to a state. When we speak of a no-machine government we mean what Governor Hughes is giving New York.

Wallowa bachelors have organized, and resolved to consider all matrimonial propositions.

STATEMENT NO. 1.

No man should be nominated for the legislature who does not subscribe unqualifiedly to the following pledge:

"I further state to the people of Oregon, as well as to the people of my legislative district, that during my term of office I will always vote for that candidate for United States senator in congress who has received the highest number of the people's votes for that position at the general election next preceding the election of a senator in congress, without regard to my individual preference." (From the Direct Primary Law.)

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Taxing the Farms.

Portland, Jan. 24.—To the Editor of The Journal—In your issue of the 23d W. J. Garrison displays a commendable amount of honesty and a deplorable amount of ignorance on the proposal of the Oregon Tax Reform association to exempt improvements and machinery from taxation. The brother asserts one great truth on which the proposed amendment is founded, viz., "For without land we as a state and nation would be as nothing." And again, "For the soil has been the great factor in producing this wealth." Nations and states cannot exist without people and people cannot exist without land. From the soil all wealth comes. Since no amount of taxation can reduce the area of land, while taxation on all products of labor tends to reduce their production to the extinction point if taxed sufficiently, Brother Garrison has only to study up a little more to discover that the proposed change in taxation would not reduce the amount of land in Oregon a square inch, and that it would not increase the burden of taxation on any working farmer one penny. If that farmer is part land speculator, holding land out of use or only indifferently used for a part of the year, then of course the land speculator part of him would or might suffer.

There are only seven objections to placing all taxes on land values alone. These objections are not reasons, but expressions, of established interests and prejudices. These objections have been voiced more ably by the Duke of Argyle in answer to Henry George than by any other writer yet developed. Brother Garrison should read this answer to Henry George by the noble duke and he would then have more ammunition to fire at the proposed amendment than his magazines now appear to afford.

The errors of the gentleman from McMinnville are two: First, he assumes that the farmers own the land of Oregon, and, second, that if taxes were doubled on land values by the proposed amendment the farmer would pay the entire increase. If he will look the matter up he will discover that the farmer does not own one third of the land values in the country outside of cities and towns, and further that two thirds of the land, measured in dollars, is in cities and towns. Now, if the gentleman will explain how doubling the taxation on land values will double the taxation on the farmer, who owns possibly an eighth of the value, he will be able to overturn the laws of mathematics. No farm that is farmed in reality and not held idle or half idle for speculative purposes, but what has on it more value in the shape of improvements and stock, machinery and personal property than the value of the land. This is shown by statistics and careful investigation. Since the farmer who works his farm is situated in the midst of areas as valuable, but held idle throughout Oregon, and those areas unused more than double his own, to double the tax on land would reduce the tax on the farmer one third.

It is the same in the city. Few lots not held for speculative purposes but what have improvements far exceeding the assessed value of that land under them. Since in Portland only one lot out of seven is improved, to double the tax on land values would decrease the taxes on the homebuilder and the users of land.

Yes, the pioneers of Oregon have always been willing to do their share, and while they cheerfully paid taxes (fines) every year on every product of their industry they shut their eyes to the treason of the political fakers who turned over to timber and other corporations most of the state. These same pioneers do not seem to have had the independence and determination of the pioneers of New Zealand, who 20 years ago began levying special taxes on land values, and now with the votes of the farming communities are turning all taxes on land values exclusively. Although any county in that colony can go back to the old method of attempting to tax everything in sight the votes of the working homeowning farmers of New Zealand has so far prevented such a catastrophe, as they would certainly regard it. Mortgages have decreased, home-owners increased and tenants decreased where all local taxation rests on land and a considerable proportion of the colonial; or, as we would term it, state revenues, are likewise levied on land values excluding all improvements. In Manitoba the farmer likewise pays no taxes on his improvements and practically none on his stock. In Winnipeg, a city of 125,000, no taxes are levied on personal property. What benighted heathen the farmers of these two prosperous, civilized and progressive Anglo-Saxon countries must be, if Brother Garrison is right.

The laborers pay all taxes, Brother Garrison, and they pay all profits made by land speculators, also. The producing, useful citizen, whether a ditch digger, a printer, or a farmer, is a laborer and on his back supports the public needs and the idler speculator.

The proposed amendment does not exempt all buildings, nor all forms of personal property. Many think it should have so provided. The gentleman from McMinnville carps at my illustration of the difficulty of assessing diamonds and the ease with which hay is found by the public tax inquisitor. Whether one farmer or many owns the hay has nothing to do with the illustration given.

In conclusion, Brother Garrison, there is no use calling names and denouncing the proposition. It is one that has been proved to work out in diametric opposition to your assertions. It relieves the farmer, reduces mortgages, increases homes, assures prosperity and wrongs no one. It is coming throughout the civilized world—taxation of land values. If this generation of Oregon farmers vote this proposition down, another generation will laugh at them for being deluded slaves of vested land gobbling corporations.

FRED C. DENTON.

Why I Am Opposed to Electrocution

By Professor Freudenthal.

(Professor Freudenthal visited the United States at the request of the German government, which is considering the adoption of electrocution in Germany, where decapitation is now used.)

As a result of my investigation during my trip to America, where I witnessed an electrocution in the state of New York, I have come to the conclusion that I cannot recommend its adoption in Germany. There are too many uncertain elements about it; no one knows how long the murderer suffers, whether he is made unconscious by the first shock or continues to suffer beyond. No one can say when death actually occurs, and I personally consider decapitation, especially when done by the guillotine, far more humane.

To the witnesses of an execution electrocution may appear less brutal than hanging or decapitation by sword or ax, because the executioner is less in evidence, and does not act directly upon the criminal; but the uncertainty as to when death actually occurs makes the electric method objectionable.

At the electrocution during which I was present the current was turned on at a signal from the deputy. A button was pressed, the murderer drew a deep breath and tried to straighten his limbs. His whole body trembled. A current of 1,750 volts was sent through him for half a minute, then it was gradually weakened, to be turned on full force once more.

The official surgeon then stepped to the chair and, with his stethoscope, examined the body. Another physician who was present was asked to do the same. Then the two conferred for a moment, the official surgeon gave a signal, and once more the current was turned on. Again the body trembled and grew rigid, the surgeon made another examination and declared the man dead.

We had entered the death chamber at 6:05 in the morning, the first current was turned on three minutes later, and seven minutes after that all was over. The execution had taken exactly 10 minutes. An autopsy was performed on the body, and it was buried in quicklime, as the law demands.

I did not notice any twitchings of the body after the last current was turned off. It remained to all appearances absolutely unchanged in the chair. When I asked the deputy why it had been necessary to give several shocks, he replied that this was always done because it was demanded by the law that the current should be applied until the victim was dead, but that after the first shock he was, if not dead, at least unable to feel pain, judging from experiments made upon horses.

The impression of the witnesses was, however, that the heart was still beating when the physician was asked to examine the body by an official surgeon. His whole behavior, his whispered words to the official surgeon, and the turning on of the current once more necessarily gave this impression. If this were so, it proves that the heart had continued its activity more than one minute during the time of the first current, and afterward throughout the time of the examination between the two physicians.

If one supposes that electrocution kills by what might be called internal suffocation, during which the activity of the heart may continue for some time, it is, maybe, impossible to say that the victim will still live, but it is also impossible to say with any degree of certainty that death occurred immediately. If the victim was supposed to be dead, and if the surgeon was sure of the fact, why was it then necessary to give a second shock?

Against electrocution also speaks the argument that no one knows whether the effect of the electrical current is final or temporary, and no one can say that it would not be possible to call the victim back to life. This objection, of course, is not of much importance where the law demands an autopsy, as it does in New York, but in other countries, where the body of an executed criminal is often turned over to relatives immediately after the execution, it might still be possible for these to revive him, and, if so, it would not be possible to execute him a second time, as he had already been declared dead officially.

These are the principal reasons why in my report to the government I shall not advise the adoption of electrocution.

J. J. Hill on Governor Johnson.

In furtherance of its boom for Governor Johnson of Minnesota, the New York World prints this story: "Soon after being elected governor, J. J. Hill, the railroad and financial king of the northwest, called on him. Two farmers, who had been boyhood friends of the governor, had just been ushered into the private office, when announcement was made that the great Hill was outside. 'Tell him I will see him when I have finished with these gentlemen,' said Mr. Johnson. The private secretary urged an immediate audience. Once a year the governor gets angry and swears. That was one of the anniversaries. Half an hour the governor sat with the farmers. Then he went to the outer room to his noted caller. 'Mr. Hill,' he said, 'I never met you before and I appreciate your coming to pay me your respects. I knew you were waiting outside for half an hour, but I would have kept you waiting 24 hours rather than have those two men go back to their homes with the impression that John Johnson would turn away the humble associates of his youth and give preference to any man who chanced to possess wealth and power. If you wish to congratulate me, Mr. Hill, now, here is my hand.' Mr. Hill grasped the hand and shook it warmly saying, 'I like you the better for it.' This same James J. Hill said to the World correspondent a few weeks ago in New York: 'Look over John A. Johnson as a man fit for the White House. Study him and you will find there is a lot in him. He has courage, he has ability and he has common sense.' In 1896 and in 1900 Johnson voted for Bryan, but was not one of the fanatical followers of the Nebraskan. His views today are at variance in many respects with those of Mr. Bryan. He does not recognize the divine right of Mr. Bryan to be the dictator and autocrat of the Democratic party for all time. He thinks that Judge Gray of Delaware would be an ideal president, combining in one man the experience and ripened judgment of three coordinate branches of government—the legislative, the judicial and the executive. Regarding the possibility of his own candidacy, Governor Johnson says that he is attending strictly to his business as governor, conferring with no political leaders, planning no campaign, entering into no alliances and neither spending a cent nor losing a minute's sleep because his name has been mentioned."

The "Full Dinner Pail."

From the Commoner.

They have had "rent" riots on the east side in New York and the Chicago Tribune (Rep.) advocates the establishment of a soup house for the benefit of unemployed and hungry men. And this is under a Republican administration and the Republican emblem was "the full dinner pail!"

Jefferson Was Right.

From the Commoner.

Jefferson was right; the United States supreme court is the least Democratic of all the departments of government and yet a bare majority of it can stretch the constitution out of shape or contract its powers.

Small Change

How have some of the spellbinders fallen.

* *

Ruef is particular about his lawyers, of course.

* *

All Oregon should pull together, more and more.

* *

A good many hitherto party men are asking, Why?

* *

Will Harriman make any more promises this year?

* *

Mr. Hughes would doubtless be a dignified candidate.

* *

Probably garden planting better be deferred a little.

* *

This is the year to improve the orchards and dairies.

* *

Don't sign every petition that anybody asks you to sign.

* *

The Hall trial may terminate this week. This isn't so bad.

* *

Now the city is safe; it has some more regular detectives.

* *

Certainly embellish the parks with roses. Isn't this the Rose City?

* *

Are we going to get those free docks this year—or those other things?

* *

Harriman may be for Hughes only because Roosevelt is against Hughes.

* *

This is the week to register, and the earlier in the week it is done the better.

* *

All who can consistently do so should give employment to men in need of work.

* *

A lightly burdened donkey might outrun and overtake an overloaded elephant.

* *

Evidently Mr. Moser will not have serene sailing in his race for that nomination.

* *

A presidential election should not occur oftener than once in six years. It is a nuisance.

* *

Jack London has had a long sea trip and got a lot of free advertising and so is happy.

* *

We don't hear quite so much during the past few weeks as theretofore about Republican prosperity.

* *

Oregon people should not quit kicking against Harriman, but should do more to help themselves too.

* *

If the unemployed are expecting a long job of shoveling snow, they are likely to be disappointed.

* *

The Fallon thieves' joint is closed up at last—at least temporarily. This is a small but good beginning.

* *

Walter Wellman says Wall street has totally reformed. He must think he is making hot air for his balloon.

* *

Good citizens do not perform their full duty as voters by merely voting; they should help bring out the right men to vote for.

* *

A man out beyond Gresham took his money out of a bank during the "panic" and sewed it in a mattress and now he hasn't it. An old story.

* *

The late Clarence Edmund Stedman was not considered a great poet, but is there any better living yet in America? The age of poetry seems to be passing.

Oregon Sidelights

Wheat looking fine around Athena.

* *

Catholics are buying much property in Medford.

* *

Polk county farmers setting out many fruit trees.

* *

Pendleton expects to improve this year as never before.

* *

George P. Mims is setting 70 acres of his farm near Central Point to apples, pears and peaches, about equally divided.

* *

A Eugene firm sold a half interest in their business to one man and the other half to another man, and the new partners had to be introduced never having met before.

* *

For the milk yielded by four cows G. J. Rempel of Polk received $326.50 during the year 1907, besides using enough cream and butter to supply a family of five persons.

* *

There were 110 births, 38 deaths, and 65 marriages in Columbia county during the year 1907. The population of the county is about 10,000, and, when it is considered that quite a number of these deaths were accidental, it speaks well for the healthfulness of the county.

* *

Klamath Falls Herald: The marvelous absorption of the business of this section which has been made by the wholesale houses of Portland during the past year is causing comment among the merchants of Klamath Falls. Before the earthquake practically all of the supplies for this entire territory were shipped from San Francisco and Sacramento. Today it is different. It is stated on good authority that during the year 1907 the shipments from Portland practically equalled those from San Francisco and each month is bringing new business for our metropolis.

* *

Hillsboro Independent: Since January 1, of the present year, the following new enterprises have been established or are about to be established in this city: Fish market, carpenter shop, skating rink, barber shop, confectionery store, poolroom, shoe store and a new general store and a new meat market. There is not a vacant building in town, and if other lines of business are put in here, suitable quarters will have to be erected. A dozen store buildings could find occupants at once, and the call for desirable residences are coming in daily, with no places to offer.

This Date in History.

1794—William Bradford of Pennsylvania became attorney general of United States.

1832—Mazzini founded "Young Italy."

1851—John James Audubon, famous naturalist, died. Born in Louisiana, May 4, 1780.

1859—William II, emperor of Germany, born.

1894—Midwinter fair opened at San Francisco.

1896—Fifty-five lives lost in colliery explosion in South Wales.

1901—Giuseppe Verdi, composer, died. Born October 9, 1814.

1905—Samuel H. Piles elected United States senator from Washington.

William II's Birthday.

William II, Frederick William Victor Albert, king of Prussia and emperor of Germany, was born in Berlin, January 27, 1859. He was educated at Cassel and passed through the ordinary discipline of that establishment until 1877, when he entered the University of Bonn. He succeeded to the throne on the death of his father, the late Emperor Frederick, June 15, 1888. His majesty was married in Berlin, February 27, 1881, to Augusta Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and has six children. Emperor William is known for his remarkably energetic character, his versatility and his learning. He is thoroughly acquainted with all parts of western Europe, has visited Constantinople and Athens and some years ago stirred the chancelleries of Europe by making a pilgrimage to the holy land. Later a similar stir was occasioned in diplomatic circles by a visit he paid to the Sultan of Morocco.