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In judging others, a man labors to be just, commonly errs, and easily sins; but in examining and judging himself, he is always wisely and usefully employed.—Thomas a Kempis.

## OREGON'S ARROGANT DICTATOR.

INITIATIVE petitions may now make anything law that any group of persons entertaining chimerical notions of public, and even of private interest, may exert themselves to bring before the electorate." This statement appeared in a newspaper, and its identification of its origin. In all Oregon, there is but one source from which it could emanate. Complete belief in the irresponsibility of the electorate, and complete confidence in the omniscience of one fountain, head of all knowledge, is its hypothesis. How it happens that one man in all Oregon is so safe and sane, and all other men in Oregon so unsafe and insane that even chimerical things, not only public but even private, "may become law if submitted to the electorate" is an amazing accident.

But is the electorate of Oregon the stupid, sodden mass of ignoramus they are declared to be? Has the utterer of this extravagance ever mingled with the plain people, looked concernedly into their faces, and heard from their own lips of their aspirations? Was it by that means that he concludes that they are as dull as their cattle, as stupid as their swine, as soulless as the iron they hammer on their forges or the wood they work on their benches?

If not, did he discover their stupidity and insanity in their past use of legislative power? Was the passage, by an overwhelming flood of their ballots, of the Oregon primary law a proof of their irresponsibility? Was the passage by them of the franchise tax law, that the legislature had refused to pass, an exhibition of the ox-like stupidity they are charged with? Is the fact that they compelled the legislature to elect two senators within a few minutes instead of devoting a whole session to the task a proof that they are an irresponsible and rabble herd? Has any legislation the people of Oregon have ever passed given one single hint that their power to legislate is a menace, and that it and they are to be feared and shunned?

Charity suffereth long and is kind. Draw its mantle over the mind that refuses to be unmoored from discarded dogma. Let it be comforted by living, undisturbed, among the untruths that other minds long ago discovered and rejected. Let it sing its swan song as it pleases, while the lusty, intelligent vigor of Oregon goes forward with constructive development, unmindful of danger, for there is none. No law will pass that is not a desirable law. No freak legislation will be enacted, for the multitude are neither freaks, nor freakish.

## MERELY A PASSING SPASM.

THE CASE at Stanford is not the first instance in which it has been concluded that it is the business of the students, rather than of the faculty, to run the school. Spasms of the sort have come and gone at institutions in various parts of the country during late years. It is of course the faculty at Stanford and elsewhere that is paid to determine discipline and administer it. That at least was the view of those who received education when fewer things were free, colleges scarcer, books rarer, professors fewer, and the road to learning so much more difficult that young men were glad to get what learning they could without feeling called upon to supersede the faculty and run the whole shebang. Education in those days carried with it a decent respect for authority, and a fair measure of civility, widely at variance with the spirit of the Michigan students, who tore up a theatre to the amount of \$2,500, or the walkout at Stanford which insists on its right to determine what is a proper standard of discipline at the university. The old education may not have been as desirable, or its ideas swift enough for the young men of this swift age, but it had a virtue in that it turned out many a man worth while.

It is possible that in the affair at Stanford there may be contributory lack of tact by the faculty, impossible of discernment at this distance, but, even if there is, it does not justify resort to the methods of a military camp as a means of retaliation.

## IS MR. SCOTT A FIT ADVISER?

VOTERS of Oregon who are inclined to look with disfavor upon Statement No. 1 of the direct primary law will do well to recall some of the incidents of the senatorial election of 1903—the last conducted under the old system whereby the legislature elected the senator, regardless of the choice of the people.

### A LOCAL PLATFORM.

REPUBLICAN club of this city held a meeting Friday evening and adopted a platform, with most of which The Journal agrees. It is in these particulars about such a platform as any Democratic club might adopt. But in the outset of it, as a reason for being Republican, this platform says:

We are Republicans because we believe in the fundamental principles for which the Republican party stands. We are proud of its record and achievements in the past. Convinced for the establishment of liberty for all men, it has gone on in securing and advancing equal rights and opportunities to all. We are patriots because the history of our government has been made through parties, and true advancement can best be made through organized effort.

We commend the wise legislation of our present congress and the fearless administration of our Republican president, Theodore Roosevelt.

Passing over the apportionistic introductory platitudes, we think it proper to point out a palpable error in the statement that the Republican party "has gone on in securing and advancing equal rights and opportunities to all." In its persistent adherence to a very high protective tariff system, designed and maintained in the interests of the few and not of the many the Republican party has in fact done exactly the opposite of what this platform asserts.

And it would be interesting for these Republican friends to point out in some detail "the wise legislation of this congress." So far as we are able to discover, the record is rather meagre. This congress has compiled to a very small extent, so far, with the suggestions and recommendations of "our Republican" (?) president, Theodore Roosevelt. It may pass a ship subsidy bill, the conspicuously bad thing that he recommended, but so far we don't remember any of his good recommendations being acted on.

Deceptive and delusive phrases, untrue assumptions, and partisan unbecome, are in order yet, it seems; yet they are not fooling as many people as they used to. A great many Republicans are beginning to realize that before they are Republicans they are citizens, taxpayers, sovereigns, "the people."

### LA FOLLETTE AND THE SENATE.

IT IS NOT to their credit that many Republican members quitted their seats in the United States senate during the delivery of Senator La Follette's speech against the Aldrich currency bill Thursday. Nor is it to their credit that by whispered conversations those that remained so interrupted his remarks that he was driven to the expedient of directing attention to their rudeness. Their behavior was, of course, the studied manifestation of their attitude. Unwilling King John felt the same way when Magna Charta was wrung from him at Runnymede.

This man La Follette has a message. All men with messages meet rebuff. He is one of the great commoners of the country. He is one of the forerunners of equality and equity for his countrymen. He is out of harmony with the dominant spirit and the controlling factors in the United States senate. He is the uncompromising foe of entrenched interests and syndicated wealth, as they are servants and procurers. He is a champion of the people and a defender of their interests; they are the servitors of swollen fortunes and the working tools of Mammon. His philippic against inequity in the defense of his country and countrymen are gall to their souls, and to emphasize their disrespect for him and those he speaks for, they hurry from the chamber, while he rings out the spirit of liberty and equality.

Robert La Follette has hearers. His is the brain, the hand and the influence that has redeemed Wisconsin and leveled to an equality with the commonalty the special interests and privileged favorites that, by means of the United States senate, almost hold the nation in the hollow of their hands. His endeavor was the instrumentality by which Wisconsin corporations were forced to pay taxes on their franchises, until the people of that state are no longer required to pay state taxes. Ten years before Mr. Roosevelt ever broached railroad rate regulation, the Wisconsin commoner was preaching it to his people. He was a dozen years ahead of every other leader in his party, as Mr. Bryan was of those in his party, in discerning the truth and leading his countrymen back into the channels marked out by the fathers.

Senator La Follette, in the purity of his citizenship and in loyalty to the true spirit of the republic, is as much the superior of those who deserted their seats in the senate Thursday, as the heavens are above the dull earth. It is mournful that there should be such a place, and its personnel of such character that

Harvey W. Scott was a candidate for senator in 1903. In an article published in the March number of the American Magazine, Lincoln Steffens charges that Mr. Scott entered into a bargain with Jonathan Bourne, whereby, in exchange for the latter's support, the editor of the Oregonian agreed to use "the full power" of his paper and its evening edition to defeat Senator Mitchell in 1907 and to elect Bourne in his place; to turn over to Bourne, in the event of the editor's election, all the federal patronage of the state; and lastly to pay to Bourne the sum of \$28,000, cash.

No graver charge has ever been made against any man in public life in Oregon. In point of moral obliquity the crime for which the late Senator Mitchell was convicted pales into insignificance beside the transaction with which Mr. Scott is charged. Beside it the offenses of which Heney has accused Senator Fulton are trivial and inconsequential. We forbear to dwell upon the magnitude of the indictment, which is so grave that no thoughtful man can fail to appreciate its significance, if true.

Mr. Scott has denounced the accusation as "simply fiction" and has declared through the editorial columns of his paper that "this so-called agreement, alleged to have been written by Mr. Scott, was not written by him nor dictated by him, nor ever seen by him. It never existed. It is a fabrication by somebody, and sheer forgery." If Mr. Scott were a mere private citizen, taking no more part and exerting no more influence in public affairs than any other individual, his denial of Mr. Steffens' charges might suffice. That would be a question in which Mr. Scott alone would then be concerned. If he were content to allow the matter to pass with a bare denial the public could not complain.

But Mr. Scott is not a mere private citizen. He is the editor of a paper which was for many years an all-powerful factor in the political affairs of the state and which still exerts a wide influence. For months past he has been using all the power of this paper to induce the people of Oregon to return to the corrupt and debasing system which prevailed when Mr. Scott himself was a candidate for the senatorial toga. He wishes the people of Oregon to place again in the hands of the legislature the untrammelled power of electing the senator. He appears as the apologist, advocate and defender of the old order of things when men bought their election to the United States senate by precisely such corrupt bargains as he is accused of having made with Jonathan Bourne. And this he is doing in the face of the fact that only one year ago he placed upon Statement No. 1 the stamp of the Oregonian's strongest editorial approval.

In view of Mr. Scott's remarkable change of front on this great question, and in view of the extraordinary efforts which he is putting forth to induce the electorate of the state to return to the old regime of dishonesty and rottenness, it becomes a question of insistent moment whether he did or did not make such a bargain with Jonathan Bourne, as Lincoln Steffens has alleged. Before the people of Oregon can accept the guidance of the Oregonian's editor in this campaign it is imperatively necessary that they should know whether or not he is guilty of the shameful transaction with which he is charged. It is no longer a private matter concerning only Mr. Scott's personal honor; he has made it a matter of grave public importance to every voter in the state. If Mr. Scott is to assume to advise the people of the state as to how they should proceed in this campaign it is first incumbent upon him to establish his sincerity by proving beyond cavil or dispute his own innocence of this charge. Until he does so his utterances must be regarded with distrust and his motives must be suspected.

Mr. Scott's bare denial of the accusation is not sufficient. Five years ago he declared in the most positive terms that he had "never been a candidate for senator" and had never asked the vote of any member of the legislature. Yet the ink was scarcely dry before these assertions were proved untrue. The charge that Mr. Scott made such a deal with Bourne as Steffens alleges is not new. It was published months ago by an Oregon paper. It has been a matter of common gossip ever since the legislative session of 1903. There are a dozen men in Oregon who profess to have seen and read the contract, which they say is in Mr. Scott's own handwriting. If the statements of these men are false, if the Steffens indictment is "simply fiction," if Mr. Scott never entered into such a corrupt and dishonest agreement, then he owes it as a duty both to himself and to the people of the state to establish the facts through the courts. No innocent man could have better grounds for a libel suit, and no innocent man would have difficulty in disproving such a charge.

Here is the text of the alleged agreement, as given by Mr. Steffens:

"In case I receive Jonathan Bourne Jr.'s support for United States senator at the joint session of the legislature tonight, I hereby agree to use the full power of the Morning Oregonian and the Evening Telegram to defeat John H. Mitchell at the next senatorial election and elect Jonathan Bourne Jr. in his place."

"I further agree that if I receive the support of Jonathan Bourne Jr. for United States senator in the joint session of the legislature tonight that if elected I will turn all the federal patronage over to Jonathan Bourne Jr."

"I hereby further agree in lieu (view?) of receiving the support of Jonathan Bourne tonight at the joint session of the legislature that whether elected or not I will pay to Jonathan Bourne \$28,000 in United States gold coin."

Is it not incumbent on Mr. Scott to prove to the people of Oregon that Mr. Steffens' story is a baseless falsehood, before attempting to advise them further as to how they should elect United States senators?

### JESUS AND THE COMMON PEOPLE.

And the common people heard him gladly. Mark xii, 37.

TEN THOUSAND ministers, of all sorts of denominations, and varying forms of belief, will preach today of the founder and great exemplar of Christianity, but in too many cases the "common people" will not hear "gladly," or indeed at all; most of them will be absent. Yet in the aggregate there are multitudes of the "common people" who still "hear him gladly" if his messages are well interpreted.

The common people heard Jesus gladly because he was one of them; he understood them; he used simple and homely illustrations in presenting great truths to them; and besides, he was so filled with the divine spirit that without conscious effort he "spoke as man never spake." Yet great as he was, especially inspired, peculiarly divine, the common people understood him. It was from among the common people, for the most part, that he selected his close personal friends and associates. Them he trusted most, knowing that at heart they were wiser than their superiors in position, as to spiritual things, because they were simpler and purer of purpose; they had not been spoiled by ambition, intrigue and excesses of life. To them, rather than to rulers and distinguished people, Jesus spoke, so simply, so truly, so unselfishly, that they "heard him gladly."

He taught them not of a God clothed terribly in power and pomp,

but of their "Heavenly Father"; he taught them that "the kingdom of heaven is within you"; he not only preached but performed charity, helpfulness, aid to the distressed, relief of suffering, unselfishness in association with others, purity of thought and life; "he took a little child and set him in the midst," and told them, "of such is the kingdom of heaven." He "went about doing good," he healed the sick; he taught the lesson of eternal life; he was divinely great in small, common ways; and so the common people "heard him gladly." He was the great discoverer of the common people, and it is they, even to this day, who most sincerely believe in him and practice the precepts he taught. We do not hear much in the newspapers of these Christian "common people"; they do nothing to attract public attention; but they are in number a great multitude. They still "hear him gladly," and understand. They are yet "the salt of the earth."

THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

IF we are not careful there will be more Democratic members in the lower house of the next legislature than there were at the last (Hon. Herman Rothschild of Union county, had the honor of being the only member).—La Grande Observer.

Would the heavens fall or the rivers burn up if there should be two, or even three Democrats in the lower house of the next legislature? What partyism is there, properly, anyway, in state legislation?

Up in Eugene two men have been fined \$300 and sentenced to 30 days in jail each for violating the local option law. A few punishments of this kind should have a salutary effect.

Minister Takahira still sensibly talks peace, and ridicules the idea of war between the United States and Japan. "The visit of the fleet to Japan," he says, "and the treatment it will receive there will do

more than any other act that could have been suggested, to restore the confidence of the people of the two nations in each other, and re-constitute the close relations that have existed for more than half a century." We cannot suppose a man in his position is talking falsely, and what he says is reasonable. The great voyage of the fleet will make for peace, not war.

Senator Fulton is to return and personally defend himself in a speech-making campaign, but it may be doubted if he will gain any votes by that action. As he admits, his presence is needed in Washington just now, and he would please the people better, we believe, by staying there and attending to the people's business. He has already made his denial and defense, and further talk is not likely to affect the result.

The ship subsidy bill has passed the senate, as was expected, but there may be enough friends of the people in the house to beat it there, in spite of Speaker Cannon's support of the nefarious measure. We shall see; but as the president is urging the bill, it is likely to pass. We think it will not help the Republican party any in the country at large.

The first 1,000-foot vessel ever constructed is soon to be built at Belfast for the White Star company, and it is intended to make it superior not only in size but in speed and finish to the Cunard liners, the Lusitania and Mauritania, which are 700 feet long. A 1,000-foot ship will be a monster indeed, and this may not be the limit.

The Republicans of Woodbury county yesterday held a harmony convention. It was to that extent a harmony convention that not a single test vote was taken or called for.—Sioux City Journal. Ah, what joy. Evidently the machine was well oiled and in perfect working order. Couldn't a duplicate be sent out to Portland.

One of Ruef's attorneys points out that it would take 116 years to try Ruef on all the indictments found against him. More than that, at the present rate of progress; more like 1,160 years. But this is a beautiful illustration of our glorious system of criminal jurisprudence.

Those cross-continent automobile racers would do well, after this, to have relays of stout mules all along the route, to pull the machines out of difficulties.

The Wise Guy.

Once in a while we run across a man who exerts himself almost painfully trying to impress everyone he meets with his superior, double-distilled, put-up-in-a-fancy-box wisdom. Somehow I don't seem to get along well with a gentleman of that distinction. When he begins to tell me of his wonderful and multitudinous exploits from pitching horseshoes to playing a piano, I begin to feel insignificant and homesick. I want to get out among the busy throng and shake hands with somebody. Last Sunday I met the fellow who knows it all. He not only told me that he knew most everything, but he offered to prove it by using three hours and thirty-seven minutes of my time, which will never be fit for anything now, I knew to my regret, in the presence of the Encyclopedia Britannica and the history of the world in 17 volumes. He told me that from a poor barfoot boy he had risen to the position of a millionaire, and that he had earned his money by his own efforts and strict attention to business details, worked himself up to where he now is at a salary of \$7 per standing there in the corner, hemmed in by his ponderous presence and wishing for a drink of water and a rattling gun. I listened with rapid attention to the history of his life and the many noble deeds he had executed and placed on file, until my knees gave way and tired nature asserted itself, and I faintly remember that a heroic gentleman saved 30 men from a horrible fate.

Now, I do not fear death by ordinary methods, but I do not wish to undergo a seething furnace of fire to save a man's life, or eat a piece of boarding-house mince pie without batting an eye, or even give my name to the explanation of a human phrenograph that has so many virtues that they are spoiling on his hands.

is not or will not be so expended. Oregon is yet a state of comparatively small population, but it is of sufficient population and wealth to maintain and build up a state institution of this kind. It is one of the necessities of modern life, and it does not pay to starve and strangle it. In the columns of The Journal both sides of the question have been presented, and voters will decide as they think right; but The Journal believes that it is wise and important to vote to sustain the appropriation of \$125,000 a year, and give our state university a sufficient, cordial support.

It has already done a great deal of good; it will constantly, if well supported, do more and greater good. All but a very few states have institutions of this kind, and most of them are supported even more liberally than Oregon's state university will be if this appropriation stands. Washington, California, Idaho—our immediate neighbor states—appropriate, according to wealth and population, even more than this law calls for. Hundreds of Oregon youths go to the colleges of other states; why not build up here a state institution, since this policy is determined on and settled, that will encourage them to gain their higher education at home?

The Journal agrees with those who plead for a liberal support of the common schools. It would divert nothing from their support, would rather add to it; they are and must be the basis and mainstay, educationally, of the common people. Nor would we in any wise hamper or discourage other institutions—Pacific university, Willamette university, and others—the more that can succeed the better; but the state as such, needs, according to modern notions, a university; and if so, that institution should be well sustained and supported, made a credit to the state, one to which we can point with pride as the equal of any in the country.

The cost, after all, to the average taxpayer, is inappreciable. It is but a slight contribution of society to one of the means of civilization, enlightenment and progress.

Let the state university have the money it needs. The amount is none too much. Let us not be mossbacks, in 1908, but show in all ways possible that we are a progressive people, and mean to grow in intelligence.

### CLEAN UP THE LOTS.

POSSIBLY what a paper in a neighboring city says with regard to a civic duty of citizens will be noticed and heeded more than if The Journal kept reiterating the same theory on its own account. On this theory the following remarks are quoted from the Seattle Post-Intelligencer:

With the coming of another spring there is the usual well-founded complaint of the unsightly condition which too many of the vacant lots in this city present. The indifference of property owners to this matter is not at all to their credit. It is not to be expected that all the owners of vacant lots, held for investment or with a view to future improvement, will plant them out to shrubbery or make them into small private parks for the decoration of visitors. But in common decency they ought to keep the lots clean and, at least, inoffensive to eye or nose. Indeed, if they do not do this much, the health board should do it for them and charge the cost up against them.

This applies to Portland, which, as we have often said, and as ought to be kept in mind by every property owner, can be made the most beautiful city in the country, one to be noted as such throughout the world. Everybody should do his part and help to make it so. Cleaning up vacant lots helps.

The proposed amendment to the constitution providing that public state institutions may be located elsewhere than at the state capital seems to be one worthy of adoption. Already various state institutions—the state university, the agricultural college, the normal schools and the Soldiers' home—are located elsewhere than at Salem; and the time will probably come when it will be well to have an insane asylum elsewhere. It is well to concentrate as many of the state institutions at Salem as is practicable; but the constitution should allow, (as has in fact been done already) state institutions to be located elsewhere.

Now, Portland.

From the Pendleton East Oregonian.

The Portland Commercial club has been invited to send a special train from that city to Hermiston on the date of the opening of the headgates of the government irrigation project some time during the latter part of May, the exact date to be fixed later.

Portland expects a stern Oregon to attend her June rose show en masse. Here is a chance for Portland to reciprocate. Let Portland come out into the country once. The country has been going to Portland for all these years. Let Portland come out and see what the country resources of the desert are. Let her business men get out into the sagebrush and see the water running in ditches, the lifted headgates and the million-dollar irrigation project.

This is not only an invitation, but it is a plea that Portland come to Hermiston on the date of the opening of the headgates.

You don't know what we have got out here in the hills. Come out and see for yourselves and then you will no longer wonder where all your golden store of products come from. You will see how your warehouses are filled.

## Naval Hospital Ships

From the Army and Navy Journal.

1. Hospital ships under way will permanently fly the signal, "Disregard my motions—not under control."
2. At night they will display red, yellow, green and blue lights similar to those in drug store windows.
3. On sighting a hospital ship at sea vessels will go at once to collision quarters and steam rapidly in the opposite direction.
4. No vessel will approach a hospital ship unless it is under way, and then with extreme caution.
5. Attempts to pass hospital ships are strictly prohibited, except in case of meeting hospital ships in narrow waters, all full speed astern until the passage is cleared.
6. Commanders of vessels in the vicinity of a hospital ship during fog will carefully observe the regulations regarding the showing of red and green lights, and refraining of reproachful words, gestures or signals toward persons in the naval service.
7. In event of two hospital ships meeting in opposite directions, the vessel in the lead will give the signal for the other to pass.
8. When hospital ships collide the one commanded by the junior surgeon will sink first.
9. Hospital ships which have been at sea for three days without being heard from will be considered lost and the next of kin notified.
10. Hospital ships colliding with bunnies, hoisting marks or lightships will notify the bureau of medicine and surgery.
11. The position of the hospital ship in fleet formations of 3,000 yards interval to port of the fleet will be so arranged as to reduce the entire fleet will execute "ships right" without signal.
12. A green pennant will be hoisted by the flagship whenever the rhythmic deviations of the hospital ship from the prescribed course exceed 45 degrees.
13. The fleet will not enter port until its hospital ship has first entered and been securely moored.
14. Upon the approach of a hospital ship into harbor, vessels at anchor will stop their moorings and endeavor not to be in the way of the hospital ship.
15. In time of war hospital ships will cruise as near to the enemy's vessels as possible.
16. In any communication to the bureau of navigation the commanding officer of a hospital ship will specifically state whether or not his vessel is armed, which states the things that are to be observed by the fleet.
17. Commanding officers of hospital ships under sailing orders will not attend to family cases on shore.
18. Hospital ships will be navigated by merchant masters and crews, will not be furnished with papers, will resist search by foreign boarding officers by means of their dispatch, will refuse payment of port dues and decline to observe customs regulations; but if arrested by a foreign vessel, humanitarians no responsibility whatever will be assumed by the navy department.

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J. Popp's Busy Sundays.

From the New York World.

The story filters oversea of one Jacob Popp, who at High Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire, England, sells tobacco, confectionery and sundries to all inquirers. All days are trade days to Jacob. So with the two years he has been in this country he has made a fortune of many times for Sunday selling that his fines have aggregated \$780.

Yet is Popp not dismayed. From his courtship of his own pen we learn that still—

every Sunday finds him serving in his shop. And every Monday morning he is in there a reason for such persistency in face of fines to be paid by the shop of Popp is good for receipts of \$100 and maybe \$150. This Jacob serves, of course, for the Rachel of sordid gold. But evidently he satisfies a public demand. The magistrate will continue to hear from him on Mondays.

Despite the perseverance of Popp, so high as his fines or penalties there still will be people, even outside of High Wycombe, who imagine that Sunday blue laws can reconstruct the man with the reasonable want.

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THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

IF we are not careful there will be more Democratic members in the lower house of the next legislature than there were at the last (Hon. Herman Rothschild of Union county, had the honor of being the only member).—La Grande Observer.

Would the heavens fall or the rivers burn up if there should be two, or even three Democrats in the lower house of the next legislature? What partyism is there, properly, anyway, in state legislation?

Up in Eugene two men have been fined \$300 and sentenced to 30 days in jail each for violating the local option law. A few punishments of this kind should have a salutary effect.

Minister Takahira still sensibly talks peace, and ridicules the idea of war between the United States and Japan. "The visit of the fleet to Japan," he says, "and the treatment it will receive there will do

more than any other act that could have been suggested, to restore the confidence of the people of the two nations in each other, and re-constitute the close relations that have existed for more than half a century." We cannot suppose a man in his position is talking falsely, and what he says is reasonable. The great voyage of the fleet will make for peace, not war.

Senator Fulton is to return and personally defend himself in a speech-making campaign, but it may be doubted if he will gain any votes by that action. As he admits, his presence is needed in Washington just now, and he would please the people better, we believe, by staying there and attending to the people's business. He has already made his denial and defense, and further talk is not likely to affect the result.

The ship subsidy bill has passed the senate, as was expected, but there may be enough friends of the people in the house to beat it there, in spite of Speaker Cannon's support of the nefarious measure. We shall see; but as the president is urging the bill, it is likely to pass. We think it will not help the Republican party any in the country at large.

The first 1,000-foot vessel ever constructed is soon to be built at Belfast for the White Star company, and it is intended to make it superior not only in size but in speed and finish to the Cunard liners, the Lusitania and Mauritania, which are 700 feet long. A 1,000-foot ship will be a monster indeed, and this may not be the limit.

The Republicans of Woodbury county yesterday held a harmony convention. It was to that extent a harmony convention that not a single test vote was taken or called for.—Sioux City Journal. Ah, what joy. Evidently the machine was well oiled and in perfect working order. Couldn't a duplicate be sent out to Portland.

One of Ruef's attorneys points out that it would take 116 years to try Ruef on all the indictments found against him. More than that, at the present rate of progress; more like 1,160 years. But this is a beautiful illustration of our glorious system of criminal jurisprudence.

Those cross-continent automobile racers would do well, after this, to have relays of stout mules all along the route, to pull the machines out of difficulties.

The Wise Guy.

Once in a while we run across a man who exerts himself almost painfully trying to impress everyone he meets with his superior, double-distilled, put-up-in-a-fancy-box wisdom. Somehow I don't seem to get along well with a gentleman of that distinction. When he begins to tell me of his wonderful and multitudinous exploits from pitching horseshoes to playing a piano, I begin to feel insignificant and homesick. I want to get out among the busy throng and shake hands with somebody. Last Sunday I met the fellow who knows it all. He not only told me that he knew most everything, but he offered to prove it by using three hours and thirty-seven minutes of my time, which will never be fit for anything now, I knew to my regret, in the presence of the Encyclopedia Britannica and the history of the world in 17 volumes. He told me that from a poor barfoot boy he had risen to the position of a millionaire, and that he had earned his money by his own efforts and strict attention to business details, worked himself up to where he now is at a salary of \$7 per standing there in the corner, hemmed in by his ponderous presence and wishing for a drink of water and a rattling gun. I listened with rapid attention to the history of his life and the many noble deeds he had executed and placed on file, until my knees gave way and tired nature asserted itself, and I faintly remember that a heroic gentleman saved 30 men from a horrible fate.

Now, I do not fear death by ordinary methods, but I do not wish to undergo a seething furnace of fire to save a man's life, or eat a piece of boarding-house mince pie without batting an eye, or even give my name to the explanation of a human phrenograph that has so many virtues that they are spoiling on his hands.

J. Popp's Busy Sundays.

From the New York World.

The story filters oversea of one Jacob Popp, who at High Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire, England, sells tobacco, confectionery and sundries to all inquirers. All days are trade days to Jacob. So with the two years he has been in this country he has made a fortune of many times for Sunday selling that his fines have aggregated \$780.

Yet is Popp not dismayed. From his courtship of his own pen we learn that still—

every Sunday finds him serving in his shop. And every Monday morning he is in there a reason for such persistency in face of fines to be paid by the shop of Popp is good for receipts of \$100 and maybe \$150. This Jacob serves, of course, for the Rachel of sordid gold. But evidently he satisfies a public demand. The magistrate will continue to hear from him on Mondays.

Despite the perseverance of Popp, so high as his fines or penalties there still will be people, even outside of High Wycombe, who imagine that Sunday blue laws can reconstruct the man with the reasonable want.

Now, Portland.

From the Pendleton East Oregonian.

The Portland Commercial club has been invited to send a special train from that city to Hermiston on the date of the opening of the headgates of the government irrigation project some time during the latter part of May, the exact date to be fixed later.

Portland expects a stern Oregon to attend her June rose show en masse. Here is a chance for Portland to reciprocate. Let Portland come out into the country once. The country has been going to Portland for all these years. Let Portland come