The Rebuilding of Seattle

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

(Copyright, 1908, by Frederic J. Haskin.)

Seattle, May 16.—The manner in which this vigorous and progressive city is being overhauled and rebuilt breaks all world records for municipal ingenuity and enterprise. In order to overcome the disadvantage of the steep hills upon which Seattle is built, a determined attack has been made upon them, and no such wholesale moving of dirt has ever occurred before in merely improving a city's topography. For nine years this work has been pushed incessantly, day and night, rain or shine. Nothing has been allowed to stand in the way of the grand scheme of improvement and veritable wonders have been accomplished.

The actual number of miles of streets affected by the regrade work, giving partial changes, is 211 miles. Eleven miles of streets have been altogether remade. The change in the average street grade for these 211 miles has been a reduction of from 15 per cent to 5 per cent. The enhancement of the sale value of property resulting from this work has been an increase of 400 per cent in the business districts and of 1,000 per cent in the residential districts. At the time of regrading the principal streets of the city their width has been increased from 66 feet to either 84 or 90 feet, as the district elected. As a result 275 blocks of buildings have either been moved back nine or twelve feet, or, if an alley in the rear prevented their removal, they were cut off in front to permit the widening. During the time that these regrades have been carried on in the hill portion of the city, dredgers have been reclaiming the tide flats, and up to the present time 60 city blocks have been reclaimed by these fills. There will eventually be reclaimed in this manner 300 city blocks.

Like Panama Canal.

The task of razing its hills is to Seattle what the Culebra cut is to the Panama canal, and the operations in vogue here are very similar to those used in the work on the great isthmian waterway. Steam shovels, hydraulics, dynamite, picks and shovels are the instruments of disintegration. Railways, flumes and wheelbarrows are the mediums of transportation. The magnitude of some of the excavations cannot but impress itself upon the observer. Where only a year ago he would gaze up the ascent of a towering hill, he now finds himself peering over a railing into a monster pit. At times an impenetrable pall of smoke obscures the view of the work beneath. Then the smoky curtain is rent and through the rift one catches transitory glimpses of the big steam shovel eating its way into the hill, the hydraulics sending clouds of dirt and spray into the air, the miniature trains puffing back and forth, and the ant-like figures of men at work. When the vision is unobstructed the onlooker sees towering banks crumbling before the onslaught of water and shovel.

The greatest factors in the work of disintegration are the steam shovel and the hydraulic. The major portion of the work is accomplished by the latter process, which breaks up the hills and removes the debris by means of flumes, while the steam shovel follows in its wake and methodically establishes the desired level. The geologists tell us that in the course of centuries the gentle rainfall will reduce to an insignificant bump on the map the proudest mountain that ever reared its head above the clouds. Imagine, then the erosive powers of a solid stream of water capable of denting in the side of a marine boiler. This is the hydraulic in action. Hardly the right sort of hose for the gardener to use in sprinkling the lawn, for less than three minutes' application would see the foundation of the family domicile uprooted and the furniture buried under the pile of shingles that was once a roof.

Work Day and Night.

Work on the excavations is continuous. Day and night men and machinery wage unceasing war on the hills. The day is divided into two shifts of 12 hours each. Twenty-five men, receiving wages ranging from $3 to $6 per day, according to the nature of their task, comprise a shift, which goes to work at 7 in the morning and is relieved 12 hours later. The trains that haul away the dirt are never relieved and are given extreme care by special mechanics. It is estimated that each hydraulic removes on an average 2,000 wagon loads of dirt every 24 hours. Notwithstanding the magnitude of the work and the great risks the workmen are taking, few accidents have occurred. Only two have been fatal. One workman was struck in the abdomen by the nozzle of a big hydraulic and instantly killed. At another time a huge chunk of lignite coal fell away from one of the cliffs and crushed a workman to death.

The number of cubic yards of earth removed during the first eight years of this regrade work in Seattle was 10,560,000 at a cost of $3,168,000. The amount of work now in actual progress covers 5,900,000 cubic yards, at a cost of $3,194,000. The amount of work authorized by resolution, but only as yet partly authorized to be done by court proceedings, embraces 11,000,000 cubic yards, which it is expected will cost about $3,000,000 for removal. Therefore, the total yardage actually contracted for in the whole regrade scheme amounts to 16,460,000 cubic yards, and the total contract price is $6,362,000.

That portion of the city where the tideflats are being reclaimed presents an altogether different appearance. Fronting the observer are long rows of buildings, mounted on tall piles or frame supports such as house movers use, all of them between 20 and 30 feet in the air, waiting for 5,000,000 cubic yards of dirt to be sluiced down under them from the hills above. If a foreign visitor, unacquainted with Seattle's ways of handling hills and hollows in her own sweet fashion, were suddenly to view this forest of stilts surmounted with rows of houses, he might be justified in imagining that it was to escape some monster tidal wave that the residents had planted their dwellings in mid-air.

Stretching to the south from this portion of the city are two new and wide arteries of traffic which will revolutionize the aspect of things in the southern limits of the city. These new roadways are now on stilts, or more properly speaking, built up in the air on piles. Beneath the level plank roadways 30 feet of filling is to be made as soon as the countless tons of sand and gravel are washed down from the hills above. These roadways will provide greatly needed means of handling traffic of all kinds from the central wholesale and retail district of Seattle to the southern portion of the city and the country beyond. They will be used by automobilists working their way to the verdant rural districts south of the city, by the owners of fancy turnouts and by all manner of teams bringing produce from the gardens and farms of the nearby valleys.

Such a vast amount of improvement is necessary because of the unfortunate selection of the site of the city. Henry Yesler built a sawmill, and another fellow came along and put up a boarding house to feed the mill hands. That was the birth of Seattle. Yesler selected this site because there was a spring nearby, and with no thought of the millions his short-sightedness would cost other generations. Had he gone a half mile either north or south all this trouble and expense would have been saved. But neither Yesler nor anyone else had any idea that a city was going to grow around his sawmill.

At first the population divided itself into separate towns, located here and there in the valleys nestling between the hills. Owing to the natural difficulties in the way these places maintained their separate individuality much longer than they otherwise would have. They are all included in the corporate limits of Seattle now, except Georgetown, although the city has grown completely around this place and two miles to the south of it.

Needed New Streets.

The necessity for cutting away the hills and providing arterial highways between the valley towns now merged into one city, is based on the principle of life that without circulation the body cannot thrive. To induce property-owners to bear the expense of the work the argument was advanced that into whatever portion of the body the best circulation enters, there are the best developed organs. A city must have accessible streets for its traffic or it will develop chronic commercial invalidism.

The work is authorized by condemnation proceedings in court. When a regrade is decided upon in a certain district, the cost is first estimated, then a careful examination is made of each piece of property that will be benefited by the improvement. The present market value of the property is ascertained, as well as the enhancement of value likely to result from the improvement. A special assessment is then levied on all property within the zone of benefit, and the work rushed to completion as rapidly as possible. Sometimes only the property in the immediate vicinity of a regrade is assessed, and again the benefits will extend a mile and a half from the scene. The work not only proves of inestimable value to the city, but invariably results in enormous profits to property-owners.

The rebuilding of Seattle is causing a wonderful transformation in the place. At one point a big hill has been cut down 144 feet to let a 90-foot thoroughfare go through directly under where a house formerly stood. A double-track tunnel a mile and a half long has been bored under the city in order to get rid of the trains. Half a dozen churches have been shifted in their positions and a five-story school building has been pushed back out of the way. In the retail district a bargain sale was in progress in one of the stores. The shoppers were rushing in and out of the big brick building without knowing that it was on wheels and sliding backward nine feet.

NO STUDENTS, NO GAS, NO COCAINE

The Old Reliable

CHICAGO

Painless Dentists

HAVE STOOD THE TEST OF TIME

This office is equipped with all the latest appliances and formulas for doing high-class work.

I had 27 teeth extracted by the use of Vegetable Vapor and cheerfully recommend the method; had no pain or bad result. MRS. L. DEBRANT, Vancouver, Wash.

OUR PRICES

22-K Crown	$5.00
Bridge Work, per tooth	$5.00
Logan Crown	$3.50 to $5.00
Best Rubber Plate	$8.00
Aluminum Lined Plates	$10.00 to $15.00
Silver Fillings	$1.00
Gold Fillings	$2.00 and up
Vegetables Vapor used only by us for Painless Extracting	50¢

Chicago Painless Dentists

COR. 6TH AND WASHINGTON

Be sure you are in the right office. Lady attendant.

Phones Main 3880, A 5340

dens natural or acquired and gives them to or places them upon the shoulders of my fellow man, is false and wrong.

If I am a free man I should enjoy all my rights and privileges and I should bear all of my burdens. There are burdens that all should assist in bearing. Any shifting of any such a burden or a portion of such a burden from any class or classes of men, is positively wrong and has to be borne by that class of men not so exempted. If any right or privilege of mine that is of any value is taken away and given to the public, I am robbed of that amount of value. If any of my burdens of any money value are taken from me and given to the public, then I beat the public out of that amount of value. Hence it follows: Exemption—means to exempt, if it does not exempt anything then it is a lie.

If it does exempt anything of value then those not exempt have to pay that value.

O. R. DOWNS.

Need of Better Schools.

Brownsville, Or.—To the Editor of The Journal—I wish to make a few statements for the benefit of those who misrepresent our motives in invoking the referendum on the University of Oregon appropriation. We have no animosity toward the university, but we believe our public schools should be helped first, especially our country schools.

Many schools in Oregon have but from three to four months school during the year, taught by an incompetent teacher. A few miles north of Brownsville there is a district where four months of school was taught and the pupils wishing to have another month gave an entertainment to meet the expense of the extra month. I cite this instance as an example of how our public schools are helped by the state. Many are levying several mills special tax. We think the records will show that a majority of the schools in the state are doing this.

One of our state representatives recently said that every time any aid had been asked for public schools of the state the university and normal school friends had fought it to its death. We have this from good source and an honorable upright man and do not doubt it in the least. And yet they claim they are the public schools' friends. O, deliver us from such friends as these. They also claim that the very ones who are fighting the appropriation are the ones who are fighting the public schools. Two gentlemen recently made this assertion in a public meeting: "The Linn county council recently passed resolutions favoring more aid for public schools and always have fought for the same."

If the university friends are the public schools' best friends why have they let our schools drift along on a state tax of about one third of that of other states? They have had such a majority in the state legislature as to completely control it. Why then did they not help our schools. I should like some of the brothers to answer that question. We wish them to explain.

The public schools' friends. Bah! If so we do not care for any more friends, we now have too many by far.

Show us some aid you have given them. Make them what California's and Washington's public schools are before making the university their equal. You have the controlling power, why don't you do it, and then we will help you. "By their works ye shall know them." Beware of such friends as these.

FRED C. HARRISON.

Protest Against Armories.

Rockcreek, Or., May 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—What kind of a regiment is it that calls for armories to be erected throughout the state? If we may judge from experience in the late war the chief reason for maintenance of a national guard is shown by the fact that it afforded a nucleus for a strong organization when needed.

When the call to arms sounded in '98 the rank and file of our state troops disappeared as if by magic, and were supplanted by raw recruits who came pouring in from farms, factories and workships. These latter found as their tutors in soldiery semi-efficient, non-commissioned officers, and scarcely more than a corporal's guard of privates to each company, all of whom had to learn the business as well as the raw recruits.

An investigation of the company rolls of the Second Oregon regiment might prove interesting.

For example, Company K, consisting of 106 men and officers when recruited, contained about 12 members of the national guard upon arrival at Manila. This number is not given as being accurate, but will compare favorably with other companies of the regiment and showing that comparatively few guardsmen got to the front. Why not? Because of physical defects, they told us, such as defective eyesight and hearing, corns, bunions, ingrowing toe nails, hammer toes, weak heart, lungs and knees, diseases and possibly, homesickness. These men went down and out like rows of tenpins when brought before the army doctors. Yet, these were our national guard. If a guardsman cannot be a soldier, why should he be a guardsman? Such was the second Oregon national guard. Now comes the Third regiment asking the people of the state to sanction the erection of armories. Should these be built, and history repeat itself they would serve mostly the various functions of military display, including grand balls, banquets and social gatherings—the charming attributes which are so delightful to tin-soldiery. Would these armories house a regiment that can fight? Company, attention! Voters, ditto!

MEMBER CO. K, SECOND OREGON VOLUNTEERS.

Is It Constitutional?

Chitwood, Or., May 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—I would like to call the attention of the readers of The Journal to the porposed amendment of section 2 of article XI of the "constitutional amendment giving additional and exclusive power to cities and towns, within this corporate limit, to license regulate, control, and tax arts, suppress or prohibit theatres, race tracks, poolrooms, bowling alleys, billiard halls and the sale of liquors, subject to the provisions of the local option laws of the state of Oregon."

Which is simply a scheme to rob the voters in the rural districts of their vote.

On page 60 of the pamphlets issued by the state, setting forth the measures to be voted on at the coming election, J. F. Reddy says in favor of this amendment, "The majority should rule. No law, of course, can be passed except by a majority, and the proposed amendment merely prevents a minority ruling."

Now, if this is the object of the proposed amendment, what is the use making a law to prevent that which is impossible? Do not the majority have the power to pass any law they wish?

The amendment is not intended for that purpose. It is simply a scheme, a catch to deprive the rural districts of their votes. Under the old territorial laws of South Dakota the proposed amendment was the law. One Caldhan took out license for a saloon, paying $1,000 for the same. $200 went to the general government, $400 to the county, and $400 to the city, money payable quarterly. Six months later when the county had received $200 a man got drunk and killed the bartender. The prosecuting of the offender cost the county $9,000. So the city, in voting for a saloon, practically voted a tax of $8,800 on the county without their consent. J. F. Reddy says in his article supporting this measure, "It does not seem fair that the people who live in eastern Oregon should vote as to what regulations should be applied to local affairs of a city in the Willamette——" and vice versa.

Under our present law no one outside of our county has any right to vote on local option, and the proposed amendment would not change our relations with eastern Oregon in the least so far as local option goes.

This amendment simply deprives people who live outside of a city or town of their vote and at the same time compels them to bear this burden of cost that a saloon, poolroom, bowling alley, etc., might cost the county. This is taxation without representation. Is the proposed amendment constitutional?

A. C. BARTHOLOMEW.

The Other Side of Single Tax.

To the Editor of The Journal—Long have the American people boasted of the land of the free and the home of the brave. If that means equal rights to all and special favors to none, it is a banner that single tax cannot follow. Taxes are levied and collected for the making of laws for the protection of life and property and for the adjustment of controversies, that equal rights be extended to one and all, so let each one pay his just portion for that protection.

The single tax is aimed at the greatest industry in the world—agriculture. Let the farmers of the world cease to produce for one year and the great wheels of commerce will cease to turn. The smoke will cease to pour from the smokestacks of factories and foundries and business throughout the world will be paralyzed, for be it remembered that all things used by the people, except water, come from the land.

The single tax is unjust, because it will tax the man with the residence block as much as the millionaire with his packing plant; the one will produce no income, while the other will produce its hundred thousand a year.

Again, the farm is the workshop of the farmer. He works from 10 to 15 hours a day, often in the cold and rain, while his city brother works from 9 to 10 hours a day in a dry place. The farmer gets far less per hour for his work and runs the chance of nothing by crop failure. The single tax will drive many renters to the over-crowded city for the rent will be increased according to the expense. The papers are naming Rockefeller, Astor, Carnegie and Morgan as the great landlords. Will single tax in Oregon make any difference to them?

We all know that taxes need adjusting. The law as it exists today gives a premium of 3 per cent to the rich man and fines the poor man because his income will not permit him to pay his taxes in the winter.

I will offer a few suggestions as an outline. First, that all assessments be levied the first of the year. Second, that all premiums be removed. Third, make all taxes be payable on or before September 1 and delinquent after November 1 each year; it is much easier for the man in moderate circumstances to pay at this time of year. Fourth, that the taxes on all nonresident land be raised. Fifth, that all buildings, machinery, etc., be counted personal property. Sixth, that all taxpayers be exempt $1,000 on personal property. Seventh, that the valuation of all land over 160 acres owned by individuals, corporations or otherwise be raised.

M. A. CADY.

Questions Dr. Wilson's View.

Arleta, Or.—To the Editor of The Journal—I noticed quite a lengthy article by Rev. Clarence Wilson on the woman suffrage question in last Sunday's Journal. Mr. Wilson presented his side of the case in a very able manner, and doubtless said about all that could be said in opposition to the question.

But there is a rapidly growing number who do not think the views represented by Mr. Wilson are correct, and they have good reasons therefor.

Would you kindly devote a little space in your valuable paper to a consideration of the question from the standpoint of one who favors the equal suffrage amendment? This is a live question and one that will not down at the "ipse dixit" of Rev. Wilson, or any one else. Knowing the reputation The Journal enjoys for championing the cause of the plain people, I trust I may be permitted to discuss this question briefly in a future issue.

CHARLES E. KITCHING.

Falls Dead in Her Garden.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Silverton, Or., May 20.—Mrs. W. G. Howell, an aged woman whose home was two miles west of this city, fell dead Monday afternoon while working in the garden at her home. Heart failure is supposed to have been the immediate cause of her death. She had been a resident of Silverton for more than 20 years. The funeral will be held this afternoon.

Metzger saves you money on watches.

Discussion of Proposed Tax Amendment and Other Measures

The Meaning of Taxation.

St. Johns, Or.—To the Editor of The Journal—What is taxation and what is it for, and upon what should it be levied? Taxation is or should be levied upon the total valuation of all property in any district or state. There should be a stable measure of values; this measure should be the same for all kinds of property. For the purpose of commerce property is measured by the dollar of 100 cents and is so quoted in the market reports of the world day by day, and all business transactions are based upon these reports.

It seems to me that the correct method of assessment for purposes of taxation would be to take those market reports, at a certain day throughout the whole United States, to assess all property of all kinds at its reported values on that day.

All corporations of all kinds doing business in more than one state should be assessed by United States assessors, at its actual value on the day as above stated. Those combinations of whatsoever kind should be forced by United States law to keep correct lists of all property of any kind owned or handled by them or through them in any manner whatsoever. The officers of any combination of any kind giving the assessor an under statement of any or all properties held by them by trust or otherwise, should be punished by a long term of personal imprisonment, and to pay the costs of the suit necessary to enforce the same.

The United States should apportion the taxes raised among the different states pro rata with the amount of business done in each state by each interstate taxpayer. The state taxes should be raised in the same manner as near as possible. In county assessments bar nothing of value, assess at its full value. Require every person assessed, either for himself or as an agent, to give a correct list of all property so held by him for himself or any other party or parties, under a penalty of strict imprisonment.

Compell the assessor to value all property at the price of said property in the market reports on the day set for assessment values of property. If there is no quotations of value of any assessable property in the quotations of that date, he is to use due diligence to get the true valuation of said property not so quoted, and to assess it at its true value so near as may be. Any assessor willfully valuing any property wrongfully to be punished by imprisonment for the same.

An honest man will give in all of the property he is liable to without force. Force all dishonest men, or officers of any combination or trust of any kind whatsoever who are liable to list their property or that of any other person or combination of persons or interests of any value in any combination of any kind whatsoever, to give a correct list of all such property under a penalty of hard imprisonment.

Do this and our troubles about taxation will disappear like an Oregon mist of a warm summer morning; with the exception of forcing dishonest men and all law made combinations of men to give in a true list of all of their holdings. And a strict law strictly enforced will soon bring them into the fold.

Any system of economics whether for taxation or otherwise, that takes away any of my rights or privileges, or burdens natural or acquired and gives them to or places them upon the shoulders of my fellow man, is false and wrong.

ONLY A FEW DAYS MORE

Receiver's Sale

FIRST AND MORRISON STREETS

ONLY A FEW DAYS MORE

The required amount of cash is nearly at hand and the end is near. So do not think I mean to drag this sale on; I may discontinue this sale at any moment, so don't delay your shopping. Everyone that has attended this sale has saved considerable, as I am selling every article in the store regardless of cost. I place on sale for Thursday and Friday a few specials. Read very carefully and come prepared to buy. RECEIVER J. S. P. COPLAND

1,000 men's high-grade Suits in fancy, dress and business patterns. It is the greatest and best selected line of men's Suits ever placed on sale, and not a single suit is worth less than $20—some $25.00 and some $30.00. Your choice for Thursday and Friday only—

$8.88

Men's working Shirts, black, also black and white stripes, all colors and worth 75c, now 39c

1,000 Cravenettes, all strictly waterproof, fast colors, all shades, latest styles. None better made; guaranteed by the leading manufacturers of New York; worth from $13.50 to $16.50; in all sizes. Your choice for Thursday and Friday only—

$6.66

Men's fancy Hose, worth all the time 25c, in all colors; now priced at only 12½c

This is a long way from winter overcoat weather, but prices move anything, so here goes. I will give you any $30.00, $35.00 or $40.00 Overcoat in this store, all made by Straus Bros., guaranteeing the styles not to change next season; all new shades and strictly up to date. Your choice—

$13.75

Boys' blue Overalls, sizes 4 to 9, will wash, goods fast color; now at only 12c

Firemen's Shirts, best California flannels, also Oregon City Woolen Mills; regulation materials, fast colors; warranted in every detail. For Thursday and Friday only—

$1.75

Pongee Shirts, worth up to $3.00, in all colors, now priced at only 95c

If you can spare a few dollars put it into an Overcoat. YOU CAN SAVE OVER ONE-HALF—so why wait and buy a cheap coat later. Come now and PUT IN A WINTER SUPPLY. EVERYTHING REDUCED. Now is your chance, so don't be waiting.

OUTLET CLOTHING CO.

FIRST AND MORRISON STS.

RECEIVER'S SALE—J. S. P. COPLAND, Receiver

Mexican Mustang Liniment

The antiseptic healing agent for

Burns, Scalds, Cuts, Bruises, Sprains, Frostbites, Sore Throat, Rheumatism, Aches

and any ailment reached by external application. The standard household remedy since 1848.

For Man and Beast.

25c., 50c. and $1 a bottle. At all druggists.

Bankers and Lumbermens Bank

CORNER SECOND AND STARK STREETS PORTLAND, OREGON

CAPITAL, $250,000.00

OFFICERS

G. K. WENTWORTH - - - - - - - - - PRESIDENT
JOHN A. KEATING - - - - - - - - VICE-PRESIDENT
H. D. STORY - - - - - - - - - - CASHIER
F. A. FREEMAN - - - - - - ASSISTANT CASHIER

DIRECTORS

G. K. Wentworth, Charles S. Russell, P. S. Brumby, Dr. K. A. J. MacKenzie, George G. Bingham, Lloyd J. Wentworth, J. E. Wheeler, Geo. L. McPherson, John A. Keating, Robert T. Platt, H. D. Story.

Transacts a General Banking Business

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Genuine

Carter's

Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of

Brent Good

See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below.

Very small and as easy to take as sugar.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

FOR HEADACHE.
FOR DIZZINESS.
FOR BILIOUSNESS.
FOR TORPID LIVER.
FOR CONSTIPATION.
FOR SALLOW SKIN.
FOR THE COMPLEXION

GENUINE MUST HAVE SIGNATURE.

Price 25 Cents | Purely Vegetable, Brent Good

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

We Sell

Vinol

on the positive guarantee that if it does not give satisfaction we will return the entire amount of money paid us for it. We mean this—and ask all those who are sick and need strength to try it with this understanding.

Woodard, Clarke & Co., Portland, Or.

Hair on Face,

Neck and Arms

Removed by the New Principle

De Miracle

a revelation to modern science. It is the only scientific and practical way to destroy hair. Don't waste time experimenting with electrolysis, X-ray and depilatories. These are offered you on the RARE WORD of the operators and manufacturers. De Miracle is not. It is the only method which is indorsed by physicians, surgeons, dermatologists, medical journals and prominent magazines. De Miracle mailed, sealed in plain wrapper, for $1.00. Your money back without question (no red tape) if it fails to do all that is claimed for it. Booklet free, in plain sealed envelope by the De Miracle Chemical Co., 1909 Park Ave., New York.

For sale at all good stores and

LIPMAN, WOLFE & CO.

$1.00 a Week Will Do

DIAMONDS, Watches, Jewelry and Silverware sold on easy payments and you wear the goods while paying for them.

We sell our goods cheaper on credit than our competitors do for cash. Every Article Guaranteed.

Standard Jewelry Store

189 Third Street—Between Yamhill and Taylor