EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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Do not neglect to rectify an evil because it may seem small, for, although small at first, it may continue to grow until it overwhelms you.—Confucius.

IRRIGATION IN THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY.

A PAMPHLET report issued by the department of agriculture on "Irrigation Experiments in the Willamette Valley," being a report by A. P. Stover, in charge of the government irrigation work in this valley, is of much interest, and merits careful perusal by Willamette valley farmers. The report starts out by saying that the Willamette valley contains perhaps the largest single body of tillable land, outside the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys, in the Pacific coast or Rocky mountain states. Irrigation is needed because while the winter rainfall is heavy, it is so light in summer as to constitute almost an arid condition. Grain raising on a large scale having proved unprofitable, due principally to poor methods of farming, there has been a gradual change to more diversified farming, but for this purpose—the successful raising of clover, vetch, small fruits, hops and vegetables—more or less irrigation is necessary.

A series of cooperative experiments was begun in the spring of 1907, and of course there has not been time yet to ascertain many facts and results definitely, but enough has been done to show that irrigation in most of the Willamette valley, whenever practicable, will be of immense advantage. This great valley is well supplied with streams, and in many localities irrigation will be comparatively inexpensive, or at least will pay the cost many times over within a few years. The report says: "The soils of the valley that are likely to be most productive under irrigation are the friable clay loams of the prairies that have good underdrainage. These lands no longer yield good crops of wheat and now lie comparatively idle. The greater part of this land lies in the south end of the valley in Lane, Linn, Benton and Marion counties."

The need of irrigation is not determined by the total amount of rainfall, but by its distribution throughout the year, and about 75 per cent of the rainfall of the valley occurs between October and March, inclusive. From June 15 to September 15 the average rainfall is only 2.5 inches, which is insufficient for the purposes of diversified farming. Of course the Willamette valley is far more favored in respect of rainfall than the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys, but irrigation would render crops sure and perhaps treble their volume. The valley of the Po in northern Italy much resembles the Willamette valley in climate, rainfall and products, but it has been thoroughly irrigated for hundreds of years, and in the province of Piedmont, a little smaller than the Willamette valley, over 700,000 acres are under irrigation.

The director is experimenting in connection with the agricultural college and several private individuals, and already some data has been gained. Unirrigated land near Corvallis that produced 5,647 pounds of corn fodder per acre produced with one irrigation 7,000 pounds, and irrigated twice 9,666 pounds. Unirrigated stalks weighed 10 pounds; irrigated stalks 16.5 pounds. Unirrigated land yielded 2,604 pounds of potatoes per acre; irrigated once, 6,760 pounds; twice, 7,500 pounds. On unirrigated land near Philomath, 350 pounds of onions were raised; on the same amount of land irrigated four times, 850 pounds. Irrigation increased the yield of a hopyard 80 per cent. Experiments with alfalfa and clover gave like results. These few experiments show clearly that where irrigation is possible, crops can not only be diversified at will, but the yield can be greatly increased, in many cases doubled or trebled.

Mr. Stover mentions the following ways, in particular, in which irrigation will greatly benefit Willamette valley farmers: (1), It will serve as crop insurance; crops cannot fail, however severe the drought; (2), dairy herds can thus be supplied with green feed during the summer, greatly increasing the yield of milk; (3), irrigation would admit of more and better market gardening, the raising of all kinds of late as well as early berries and vegetables; (4), irrigation and drainage will be of service in reclaiming a vast area of prairie land which, owing to its poor natural drainage and to the abuse it has received in grain cultivation, lies in a water-logged condition till late in the spring and which even when cultivated and subsoiled is wholly incapable of producing normal crops.

So it is not only the arid lands of eastern Oregon that need irrigation, but the lands of the Willamette valley need it too, and many of them need drainage also. Every farmer who can do so should become an irrigator, and in many cases whole neighborhoods could profitably unite to secure water and carry on irrigation. Notwithstanding the large annual rainfall, this is a great need of this beautiful resourceful valley.

WESTERN CANADA.

PEOPLE have discussed three futures for Canada — imperial federation, entire independence and annexation to the United States. But Louis Corbally suggests in the British North American Review, something new as a possibility, the separation of the eastern and western sections of the country. To guess Canada's future, it must be considered not only politically but physically. The eastern section is comparatively old, settled in customs and ideas, slow to progress; but west of this is a section "rocky and almost uninhabitable, stretching from Georgian bay to Manitoba, and whose fertile and habitable western end is narrowed in the latter province to a space not much more than 100 miles wide between the American border and the Manitoba lakes; westward still, a vast prairie country extending to the foothills of the Rockies and stretching north and south from the border to the Arctic circle, abounding in potential agricultural and mineral wealth; and finally the three mountain ranges, and the Pacific littoral with its moist, mild climate and rich agricultural possibilities, its inexhaustible fisheries, its abounding forests and its mines."

These western sections are different from eastern Canada in resources, climate and prospective populations. From the headwaters of the Ottawa to Manitoba there will never be but a sparse population, but that province and Alberta and British Columbia are vastly rich in varied natural resources, and will attract a large immigration for a long time, not only from Ontario and Quebec and the old country, but from the United States. Hundreds of people have gone from even favored Oregon into these provinces. Mr. Corbally considers the physical question thus:

"Pitched on the central plains of the continent, walled in on the west by the black fastnesses of the Rockies, cut off on the east from the homes of Ontario by wild wastes of bog and forests and stony places, the western prairie provinces lie clinging together, isolated in the Dominion, cut—hopelessly, I had almost written—from the other sections of Canada by geographical barriers more formidable than those which have established and preserved the national organisms of Europe."

Southward the vast prairie stretches on, more or less broken, extending from the Saskatchewan to the Gulf of Mexico. There is no natural frontier between western Canada and the United States. A barbed wire fence, perhaps, and the tariff, are all that serve to distinguish the two countries. This "thousand-mile link is the weakest in the chain of empire that rings the globe." Already these provinces are largely "American." During the fiscal year 1906-7, 47,000 Americans to 26,000 Britishers and eastern Canadians settled in western Canada. For some years there have been nearly twice as many "Yankees" as British newcomers to these western provinces, and thus "a great human wedge is being driven through the frontier of the empire, through the chain of land and men that links Greater Britain across America from the Atlantic to the Pacific, threatening by numerical weight alone the unity of the Dominion and the empire at the most vulnerable point."

In this connection it is to be remembered that the local governments of these western provinces, especially British Columbia, have on several occasions shown much dissatisfaction with the action of the government at Ottawa, and a movement for independence in the not far distant future might meet with much favor. Yet after awhile annexation might meet with more favor. But without any such occurrence, the maintenance of a high tariff wall between us and our neighbors on the north is a piece of monumental legislative and economic stupidity—except from the point of view of certain trusts.

PUBLIC OFFICE A PUBLIC TRUST

A DISPATCH from Washington says: "Trouble is brewing in the Oregon congressional delegation, and as usual, patronage is at the bottom of it." There has been too much "trouble" in the Oregon delegation over "patronage" in the past. There has been so much of it that there should be no "trouble" in the future.

United States senators and members of congress, sent to Washington to do things for state and nation, cut a sorry spectacle when they engage in scrambles in the parcelling out of offices. The end and aim of the men sent to Washington is not, or should not be, the conferring of plums on satellites at home. Offices do not exist with the idea uppermost that they are to be bestowed as a reward for personal service rendered. They are created for the purpose primarily of serving and conserving public order and protecting and benefiting the people, and that conception, and no other should be the test of selection.

With capacity, fitness and integrity as the test, men big enough to hold positions as congressmen and senators, should be able to select incumbents for appointive offices without "trouble," and without bringing shame upon the state. The ideals of the Oregon people are high, and they want decent and orderly procedure in these matters, and The Journal is prone to believe that the members of the present Oregon delegation are high-minded enough to be guided by similar ideals and improve the service at Washington to be rendered to Oregon and her people in this connection.

PORTLAND'S FINE PROSPECTS.

THERE is no reason why Portland should not, and there are increasing reasons why Portland should, "get there," commercially and industrially, faster and in a far greater degree during the next few years than she has during the past few years—and in these her pace has not been slow.

The biggest thing to crow over just now is the deepened channel, the practical elimination of the bar, at the mouth of the Columbia. The Journal feels excusable for alluding to this again, for it is something that everybody not only in Portland and in Oregon, but many people throughout the country should know about and appreciate.

Just as the Columbia river bar has been about obliterated comes the North Bank railroad, bringing Portland into immediate connection with a vast section of the upper country, and the assurance that the greatest grain warehouses of the country will be built here. Just now, too, over on the peninsula, the greatest packing houses of the Pacific coast are being built. We could speak of a dozen really large but minor matters of development, particularly the new electric line up the valley, but these are the great, significant looming evidences of Portland's rapid present advance on the high road of its glorious destiny.

And the most important of all, the one on which all largely depend, is this entrance to the river and the ample channel from Portland to the sea. Mr. Giltner is justified in saying that "these things mean that Portland is going to take its position as the leading port of the Pacific northwest." But as he also says, we must not stop with this 26 feet at low tide, but must insist on the work being prosecuted until the heaviest laden ships that sail the ocean can have sure and ample entrance and exit. Then, as Mr. J. J. Hill has said, "all the Pacific coast will have to take off its hat to you because you have one advantage—nature made the pass, water follows the line of least resistance and so does commerce."

And a mighty commerce it will become within the next quarter of a century, even within the next decade, if the government, and the people of Portland and of Oregon, do their parts, their full duty.

CURIOUS LOGIC.

SPEAKING of "the Oregon Experiment" an eastern paper says: "The danger in the system is this: That when the legislators find that the people are assuming the responsibility for the laws, they will shirk their own important share in government and shift the whole burden onto the public."

Quoting this, the Portland morning newspaper, always eager to scoff at reformatory and progressive movements, and to approve any criticism of them, remarks: "Why shouldn't they? Since representative government is superseded, what is the use of a legislature? Besides, a member of the legislature is now a very inferior person, under suspicion, liable to be checked and reversed; and naturally he will wish to do little or nothing. His motto will be, 'trust the people.'"

This predicted "danger" is one that must really have required considerable mental ingenuity to imagine. A person must have racked his brains to think it up. The average member of the legislature desires to gain the approval of the people, and will be all the more careful to do so now than before, because now he knows that the people know better what he does and watch him closer than formerly, and that if he doesn't do about what they think right they will vote a disapproval of his actions, and that will end his public career.

The legislator is indeed now "very inferior" to the whole people, and realizing this as he never did before he is likely to be more careful to please them than to do the bidding of some boss or leader. And if his motto is, "Trust the People," he will be inclined, one would suppose, to act so, as a public man, that the people will trust him.

The fact that the legislator realizes that the people are behind him, around with all civil power and with implements in their hands to act with, will, it seems to us, prompt him to energy instead of carelessness, to conscientiousness rather than contempt, and to faithfulness instead of recusancy in his service.

The organs that oppose the rule of the people instead of the rule of the selfish and unscrupulous political bosses disclose some queer logic.

A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.

A PUBLICATION that sought the city's advertising at 26 cents an inch, and didn't get it, while charging individual advertisers 40, 45 and even 50 cents, as much as the traffic will bear at all times, for the same service as it proposed to render the city for only 26 cents, excites very little confidence in its sincerity and honesty by preaching sermons, adorning tales and pointing morals in calling attention to little laxities and deficiencies of other newspapers, regarding "their duty to the public."

Those who read this particular paper at all, come to the conclusion that this is only another case of "stop thief" to divert attention from its own violation of newspaper ethics as well as the moral law, which it frequently commits deliberately.

A case in point occurred during the recent political campaign in this state, wherein it belabored a prominent candidate with mud and slander, when it knew every charge it made was untrue, in both letter and spirit, and that its heart was not in its "dirty work," but it did it because it was ordered to do so by those who had political ends to gain and spoils to gather if the work was effective.

For such a newspaper, a handy implement in unscrupulous hands always ready to use it for private gain, to uphold "duty to the public" or attempt any other service from which the public could benefit is contrary to its history, character and association.

What a wolf is to the sheep fold, this newspaper is to the public weal and the public interest.

Letters From the People

Fleecing the Public.

Eugene, Or., June 25.—To the Editor of The Journal—My attention has been called to a grafter who is robbing the people of their money by locating them as actual settlers on unsurveyed land in township 16 south of range 4 east, Willamette meridian, getting $50 down and a balance to be paid when they get a filing.

This township was cruised by the Northern Pacific Railroad company a number of years ago and their unsurveyed scrip placed on all the best timber land in the township. Owing to the difficulty of looking up this unsurveyed scrip land and a great many people not knowing anything about this unsurveyed scrip, it is an easy matter for this locator to make the people believe that by residing on this land until it is surveyed and received that they can get a reference filing on it, which would be so but for the scrip being placed before they took up their residence on the land." This locator located 25 or 30 people on this land last June, July and August, but later in the season they got wind of this scrip and after investigating the matter here and at Washington, D. C., they found they could not get this land, so vacated it, after building their cabins and living there some time.

This locator, finding out this land was vacated, has within the last few days gone back there and is again locating parties on this same land on the same conditions as before. Hoping this will open the eyes of the public and they will profit thereby.

C. and WHO KNOWS.

Helen A. Keller's Birthday.

Miss Helen Adams Keller, whose intellectual achievements have made her name familiar throughout the English-speaking world, was born June 27, 1880. Since she was 19 months old she has been totally deaf and blind as a result of illness. Her birthplace was Tuscumbia, Ala., but nearly her whole life has been passed in Boston and vicinity. She is descended on her father's side from Alexander Spottswood, one of the colonial governors of Virginia, and through her mother she is related to the Adams and Everett families of New England. Since her seventh year Miss Keller's education has been conducted by Miss Anne Mansfield Sullivan. In 1900 she entered Radcliffe college and graduated four years later. Though unable to speak, to see or to hear, the young woman has become well versed not only in the rudiments of education, but in all the higher branches of learning. In recent years she has contributed a number of articles to leading newspapers and magazines.

This Date in History.

1550—Charles IX of France born at Blois.

1759—Quebec bombarded by Wolfe.

1794—Prince Kaunitz, chancellor of Maria Theresa of Austria, died. Born in 1711.

1803—Massacre of British troops in Ceylon.

1832—Cholera first appeared in New York.

1834—Levy Woodbury of New Hampshire became secretary of the United States treasury.

1857—Massacre at Cawnpore.

1862—Battle of Cold Harbor, Va.

1876—Harriet Martineau, historian, died. Born June 12, 1802.

1894—M. Casimir-Perier elected president of France.

Anecdote of 1896.

Chicago dispatch to the Washington Post: A good story is told about Powell Clayton, from Arkansas, national committeeman and formerly ambassador to Mexico.

He called upon Mark Hanna at Atlantic City in the spring of 1896, when Mr. Hanna was making his campaign for the nomination of William McKinley for president.

"Howdy, Clayton?" said Mr. Hanna.

"Howdy, Mark?" was the greeting in response.

"What can you do?" asked the McKinley campaign manager.

"Well," replied Clayton, "I control the delegation fro Arkansas, and Arkansas is a state that begins with 'A.'"

"Hum," said Mr. Hanna. "What do you want?"

"I want to be ambassador to Mexico."

"All right," returned Mr. Hanna.

And that was all there was to it.

Business Picks Up.

From the Boston Globe.

On every hand are signs that business is picking up, and that the panic of last year, which seemed at the time to have knocked the bottom entirely out of prosperity's dinner pail, was more artificial than real.

Every day's news reports tell of this or that big factory, mill or foundry resuming full time, with a full force.

Panics generally come with a thud, while prosperity steals upon us so gradually than many people do not hear her footfall until she is at their elbow.

...even the professional pessimist can hear her this time, if he makes half an effort at listening.

THE PUBLIC EYE IS ON OREGON

The press of the country never had its attention centered on Oregon as much as it has in the last few weeks—since the result of the recent election in Oregon was known.

A Point of Honor.

From the Albany (New York) Argus:

It is interesting, as well as inspiriting, to note the well nigh unanimity with which the press is agreed that there is only one thing for the Oregon legislature to do, and that is, to abide by the result of the popular referendum and elect Governor Chamberlain to the United States senate. There are not wanting wry faces, among the Republicans, in their editorial comments on the idea of a Democrat being chosen as United States senator from a strongly Republican state. Some of them, indeed, call it a "freakish" result, which is not a felicitous term, because freaks are of the abnormal, unnatural order, and the election of Governor Chamberlain in Oregon has come to be decidedly normal and natural—quite a matter of course. But on the whole, the comment is, as noted, substantially a unit, in holding that the legislature must accept the result, and send a choice of the people to the senate, a majority of the members of the legislature having agreed in advance to abide by the result of the referendum by subscribing to the so-called "Statement No. 1."

The Washington Star remarks:

"Governor Chamberlain's victory is personal. It cannot be otherwise explained. Republicans voted for him knowing his politics and that as senator he would act with the Democratic party. Those who took this stand put his personality above party considerations. There could have been no understanding to the contrary, for Governor Chamberlain's character and popularity repel the bare suggestion. Should these instructions be obeyed? Undoubtedly. Illogical as the result is, it represents the popular will, and ours is government by the majority. The people of Oregon have spoken, with full knowledge of the matter before them. They knew Governor Chamberlain's political views, and the duties of the office to which he was aspiring, and they have expressed a preference for him to represent them in the senate for the next six years."

The Brooklyn Standard Union says:

"It is hardly fair to assume that the Republicans will juggle with the situation and elect one of their own partisans to the high position which they are to fill."

The New York Globe finds some compensation in the law of offsets:

"If a Republican senator has been unexpectedly lost in Oregon one has been unexpectedly gained in Kentucky, where a Democratic legislature has named William O. Bradley, a Republican."

The Philadelphia Bulletin observes:

"It is hinted that efforts will be made to find some way out of this dilemma; but if Chamberlain has gained a plurality, as the reports assert, this is manifestly impossible without the violation of good faith."

These are fair representative, specimen comments.

The Rochester Post-Express cheers itself with the feeling that if the preceding Republican senators had made a creditable record, a Democratic senator would not have been elected by the people; which is doubtless quite true, there being no cause to question the Republicanism of Oregon on "national issues of the day, as demonstrated in presidential and congressional contests, steadily, for many years past. The Republican popular majority has fluctuated; but there has been at all times a Republican majority, where national issues were involved.

It is clear that, under existing conditions and in the present tone and temper of public opinion, it would be simply suicidal for the Oregon Republicans to attempt, by any partisan shrewdness or machination, to deprive the people of the services of their favorite, Governor Chamberlain, and select some man not desired by the electorate, in his stead.

The Oregon Situation.

From the Joplin, Mo., Globe.

The Oregon election challenges attention. The people of that state have declared for Governor Chamberlain, a Democrat, as their choice for United States senator. The majority of the legislature, however, is Republican, and upon that majority will devolve the duty of electing to the senate one of another party faith.

In the dispatches there is a hint that some plan may be devised by which the legislatures may evade the obligation which shall confront them. Whatever scheme may be hatched for such accomplishment it will in its essence mean the repudiation of the pledges upon which the candidates for the legislature appealed to the people for their support. On its face, of course, such action would be an insolent defiance of the people's wishes as expressed by their ballots.

The question as to whether the people of Oregon should be privileged to name their representative in the senate was fairly and unequivocally put to the test. There were two platforms upon which the candidates for the legislature appeared before their constituencies. Those platforms are called "Statement No. 1" and "anti-Statement No. 1." The "Statement No. 1" platform pledges the candidate for the legislature to vote for the candidate for the senate having the indorsement of the people. The "anti-Statement No. 1" is a declaration in favor of electing a senator by the old method. It appears that the candidates for the legislature who made the campaign on the platform committing them to abide by the people's decision with respect to the election of senator were almost unanimously elected. The gentlemen who stood for the old method of election were defeated at the polls.

In view of such decisive results it is somewhat amazing that plans for repudiating their pledges and grossly insulting the people should be in contemplation by the senatorial electors. The hope is to be entertained that the reports from Oregon are not accurate interpretations of the conditions there. If such treacherous betrayal of the people's wishes is planned, or even dreamed of, the necessity of drastic action by the people is apparent; and in order that such drastic action may be had simultaneously with their betrayal it seems that the people of Oregon might begin at once the preparation of impeachment proceedings against every legislator who violates his promise to cast his vote for United States senator as instructed by the people's vote.

The Oregon Primary Law Works.

From the Springfield, Mo., Leader.

The people of Oregon have declared that they wish Governor Chamberlain to represent them in the United States senate. Being unable to elect him themselves, they have elected a legislature to carry out their will. Will the legislature obey that will? Being Republicans, how can they elect a Democrat?

But why not? It is evident that many of their constituents have set them the example. If they would obey the voice of the people they must carry out the instructions which have been plainly registered by a majority of the ballots which express the people's will.

But is a primary election meant to work in that way? Why not? Plainly, as a rule, the party which elects the legislature will wish to have representation in congress through those of their own number. But in present conditions exceptions will often occur. A parallel to the Oregon case is conceivable in Missouri. It is generally believed that Governor Folk is the choice for senator of the people of our state. Now, in the unlikely event of another Republican legislature, their duty would presumably be to elect him, thus raising the very question now before Oregon legislators. It is quite possible that some other state may be confronted by that question.

A Curious Situation.

From the Toledo, Ohio, Blade.

There was nothing in the Oregon election to discourage the Republican party. Its ticket was uniformly successful, barring the single exception of United States senator. Owing to the personal popularity of George E. Chamberlain, twice elected governor on the Democratic ticket, he defeated the Republican candidate for senator, although at the same time the people elected a Republican legislature by an overwhelming majority.

This curious situation is presented: Oregon believes in electing United States senators by a direct vote of the people, and in the absence of a constitutional provision, refers the question to the voters as a recommendation to the legislature. In spite of this some of the successful candidates for the legislature were chosen on an anti-pledge platform and therefore may not consider themselves bound by the result of the primary. There is talk, indeed, of a defection from the ranks of the pledged members, but if the Republican leaders are wise, they will discourage any such program. The demand for a direct vote on United States senator is growing more insistent every year. Nearly one-half of the states are on record as favoring the submission to the people of a constitutional amendment, and it is believed the necessary two-thirds will be secured during the next two years. But in several of the states a plan for immediate relief has been adopted, and the people are very earnest about the matter. Should the Republicans of Oregon, by any political chicanery involving broken pledges, defeat the will of the voters expressed at the late election, the victory of this week would be reversed at the first opportunity.

Better the loss of a United States senator for a term than the loss of this prosperous state for a decade.

Roosevelt and Taft

From the Detroit News.

The whole realm of public life contains no two men of the same convictions who are so opposite in method and temperament as are Roosevelt and Taft. Roosevelt is intuitive and combative; Taft is judicial and persuasive. Roosevelt assaults obstacles with all the vehemence of his nature; Taft would order the engineer corps to remove the obstacles. Roosevelt excoriates and obliterates his enemies; Taft would make them see the reasonableness of doing the right thing, and ask them to do it. Yet both men work to the same ends. It must not be supposed that behind Roosevelt's passion there is no sufficient foundation; neither must it be supposed that behind Taft's smile there is no iron determination. One is a piece of dynamite under the stump, the other is the stump-raising machine that works easily and makes no noise—but either will raise the stump. In carrying out the Roosevelt policies by the Taft method there will be fewer explosions in the White House, fewer epithets used, and a dearth of high-keyed sensations, but the work will be done just as effectively. Roosevelt has the machinery mostly in good working order, and Taft is too good a workman to allow it to get rusty.

But best of all qualifications, assuming ability to be present, are the transparent motives of the man, his innate candor, his open life, his absolute separation from the tricky or merely political, his rare appreciation of public duty, his sound sense of the difference between essential right and wrog, his sincere passion for seeing the people benefit from his work, his wholesome belief in the good judgment of the whole people, and his own clean, upright, manly view of things.

Here is a statesman—"the state's man"—in truth. It is a fortune the people hardly stop to appreciate in this day, when politics has degenerated to a trade and professions of patriotism to one of its tricks, to find a man who seeks neither wealth nor power, but who cherishes an exalted ambition to enroll his name indelibly in the honorable company of those who thought it was fame enough to have served their fellow-men.

Tariff Revision Pretense.

From the New York World.

Prices under the tariff-protected trusts affect the general cost of living of every American. Through the tariff he pays an extra toll on what he eats and what he wears and the house he lives in. Possibly Mr. Taft himself believes that the people are entitled to some relief from excessive taxation. But it is congress that passes tariff bills. Should the Republicans carry the next house and revision be left in the hands of standpatters like Cannon, Payne and Dalzell, with the connivance of Aldrich and his kind in the senate, no honest revision of the Dingley rates would be possible.

Is it the policy of the Republican party by this campaign talk about revision merely to raise a dust so as to fool the voters?

Election of Senators

A reader of the Boston Globe writes to that paper as follows:

I read in a Rhode Island paper recently of the absurdity of election of United States senators by vote of the citizens of the respective states. The writer refers to the case of Oregon. He calls our attention to the fact that the legislature is Republican and yet it must indorse the choice of the voters when it comes to electing the man who is to represent the state at Washington. The writer also claims that the state will be misrepresented at Washington for the next six years. How he makes that out he better explain to the people of Oregon. He had better advise them how to vote. Let him describe to them the fairness and the beauties of the juggling of legislative districts and the cheating of the voters of his own state.

His own state of Rhode Island has gone unrepresented in the national senate, and many other states have had the same experience. Congressmen are expected to represent the citizens of their respective districts and states. If by a gerrymander of districts the people are cheated out of their political rights it is nothing more than right that they should demand the referendum. Had the voters of Rhode Island or Massachusetts or Connecticut the same privilege the voters of Oregon enjoy there would be some rotation in office.

Those three states have elected Democratic governors on many occasions, but by reason of legislative unfairness have been forced to submit to unjust legislation. When the people of any state cannot choose of their own free will the man to be their representative in the United States senate then I say this form of government is a failure. If the people of Oregon wanted a Republican to represent them they would have so voted. They wanted a Democrat and elected one. That was about the only way to beat the machine. They knew that the legislature was fixed and under the thumb of the boss. The "machine" must make other arrangements than have been previously made. I hope to live to see the Oregon system introduced into all of the states of the Union.

Strawberries Canned.

From Woman's Home Companion.

Have your jars perfectly clean and dry, then take equal parts of fresh berries and sugar, and mix and mash thoroughly. To accomplish this, take only a small quantity in a dish at a time, that you may be sure every berry is mashed. Put into the jars and seal immediately, inverting the jar for a short time before putting away.

The work is easily and quickly done, as there is no heating. My berries canned in this way last summer kept perfectly and have preserved their delicious flavor unimpaired.

Strawberry shortcake equal to that of the summer has been an enjoyment whenever we wished through the winter.

Two Albany brothers, young merchants at the depot, have saved enough money to invest $1,000 in Portland property, says the Democrat.

Small Change

Taft is a well rounded man.

* *

Harvard got even, on the water.

* *

It's Charley Taft that can write the big draft.

* *

Almost July; then some summer, almost sure.

* *

Sherman has always been a bossed politician.

* *

It is a good long berry season in delightful Oregon.

* *

Are those civic improvement societies or clubs all dead?

* *

"What is a Democrat?" Why, a man who is for Bryan.

* *

All the organs of the interests in New York will support Taft.

* *

It seems to be certain that Taft will run well in the Philippines.

* *

Mr. Bryan also has a big, thank you, and a streetcar line thereto.

* *

Morgan, Harriman et al have not yet agreed to revise the tariff.

* *

Whatever the harvest, there will be no shortage of breakfast foods.

* *

It is said that never before was this country without a living ex-president.

* *

How would a big Poland-China pig do as a substitute for the Teddy bear.

* *

But Roosevelt policies and Republican policies are sometimes so different.

* *

Some Oregon machine organs are still viewing with alarm the recent election.

* *

The Columbia river bar, like saloon bars in many counties, is also disappearing.

* *

George Ade might write a comic opera entitled "The Steam Roller and the Allied Pancakes."

* *

If Senator Fulton should become attorney-general, he might start an investigation of Heney's career.

* *

Taft believes in and practices optimism; why, he would not groan and be glum even if he were defeated.

* *

The campaign will be "between Big Bill and Windy Bill," says one paragrapher. It is not so bad as that, we hope.

* *

The Detroit News says: "There are four kinds of liars—liars, darned liars, commencement orators and nominating speakers."

* *

A candidate for president must often desire to turn the hose on the lawn when it is occupied with speechifying delegations.

* *

Keynote Burrows called him "Theobelt Rosevedor." But he may have been worried over the things he was saying that weren't so.

* *

Young Miss Taft has won a scholarship. There has been pretty good brains in that Taft family for generations—and probably in the Herron family too.

* *

Now if Mr. Bryan will charge the panic, and the floods and tornadoes, and the pests, and all the other ills of the country, up to the Republican party, the campaign will start out evened up.

* *

The Seattle Times says that a traveling man tells that paper: "That the population of Seattle should not be kept at 276,462 people, for the reason that that was the report of Polk's directory on the 12th day of April—nearly two and a half months ago," and this t. m. wants the Times to add 10,000 or more to its daily population announcement. The t. m. is probably a joker, but the Times will take him seriously, and make the population 285,000 at once. This seems a ridiculously small raise, however, when it would be just as easy to print 300,000.

Oregon Sidelights

Lakeview citizens have hired a band instructor for a year at $100 a month.

* *

Windy Hollow mineral prospects will now be developed, says the Lakeview Herald.

* *

Condon claims that it is the largest primary wheat shipping point in the United States.

* *

Great quantities of fine berries grow along the Coquille river.

* *

Pendleton Tribune: Portland just now is the prettiest city on this continent—also, during all times of every year.

* *

M. L. Pellett went to the Rogue river valley 30 years ago and began working for $1 a day and now is worth $80,000.

* *

A Corvallis young man took his best girl out riding in an automobile, and he steered it off a bank, and the ride cost him $110.

* *

If the Estacada country can produce one carload of fine strawberries from just a few small patches, why shouldn't the berry acreage increase until trainloads are sent out every year? asks the News.

* *

A Silver Lake cow last week gave birth to three as nice calves as one should want to see, says the Leader. The cow is a Hereford and the calves are all marked like the mother and can hardly be told apart.

* *

The Dallas Itemizer is informed that the oil well near that town was filled with scrap iron one night last week by some party or parties unknown. It is said that this renders it useless for future operations, and that either a new one will have to be started or operations close altogether. The well was down several hundred feet and prospects for oil were considered very bright.

* *

East Oregonian: With over 50 new combined harvesters ready for work in Umatilla county, it does not look like a short wheat crop. There are over 300 machines now owned in this county and new orders are being received every day. It is strange that the same farmer who will tell the newspapers a gloomy and pessimistic story about the crop shortage will buy a $2,500 threshing outfit on the same day.

* *

Woodburn Independent: A short time ago we felt jubilant over what we possessed then, but since the era of satisfaction we have secured a pressed brick factory, a creamery and ice cream plant and a cannery. Surely these additional industries are sufficient to increase confidence. But there is more coming. We are not stopping, or thinking of stopping, and the prospects of Woodburn are truly brilliant. Several projects are on the carpet, and this is bound to be one of the large cities and among the most important commercial points in Oregon.

* *

The Hood River Glacier claims that this happened at Mosier: One day last week an old rattler came into a chicken yard after something to eat. One of the chickens heard his rattles and came to see what it was. The snake coiled up and looked wise, but as soon as the hen got near enough, the snake gave a jump and bit the hen right in the ear. This made the hen mad and so a battle began. By this time there were about a dozen chickens around and they all pitched in. When it was all over the snake had its rattles all picked off and it was so badly beat up it could scarcely move. There were two or three hens injured a little bit but they are all well by this time.