EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.......Publisher

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To make some nook of God's creation a little fruitfuller, better, more worthy of God, to make some human hearts a little wiser, manfuller, happier, more blessed, less accursed—it is a work for a god.—Thomas Carlyle.

REVISION BY "FRIENDS."

SUPPOSE that 40 years ago when Portland was a small town a law had been pased that all the people of the city should each week contribute a fraction of their earnings or incomes to a few citizens who, it was explained, needed aid in order to establish and maintain manufacturing industries, such support to be withdrawn when these institutions became fairly established and self-supporting. Suppose that the owners of these favored industries profited greatly, but instead of relinquishing these contributions demanded heavier ones; that as the population increased the profits of the favored few grew to enormous proportions; that then, so as to make them perpetual, they went into politics and gained control of the city government, and of the state government, and had laws passed enforcing even greater contributions from the people to whom no appreciable equivalent was returned. Suppose that in course of time these original and other favored people and interests effected combinations among themselves so as to raise the price of all necessaries and thus plunder the people at their will. Suppose that finally, after enduring this for many years the people should demand a repeal of this old law, or its modification so that they would not have to pay so much for nothing, or rather for evil purposes against themselves, and should insist that their false representatives should give way to men who would look out for their welfare rather than that of these possessors of swollen fortunes.

Then what would they think, what should they think, if these beneficiaries of this law and practice, and their tools, should say: "Yes, we acknowledge at last, since we see that you are so much in earnest, that this is a very bad system; it must be changed, of course; but it should be changed only by its friends. The men who have supported and benefitted by this system all these years understand all about it, and are friendly to it, and therefore it is they who must be allowed to fix it. Just leave it to us experienced people, and beware of malcontents and agitators. We promise to revise the system, but it would be asking too much to ask us how. A bad, wrong thing, don't you see, can be only properly changed by its friends?"

What would people think of such a proposition, of such a plea? Yet this is substantially the situation with respect to the tariff and its revision. It is necessarily, in its nature and in its operation, a system of "reciprocal rapine," under which the masses are systematically and constantly plundered for the enrichment of combined interests, and yet when the people demand a revision the beneficiaries of the system and their tools in office say it must be revised by its friends. That means no revision for the people's benefit at all, rather the other way. The friends and beneficiaries of a wrong thing are not the ones to right it.

RESULTS OF PRIMARY ELECTIONS.

IT IS TRUE, as has been stated, that the Republican party, where the rank and file have a chance to express themselves and have their will carried out, shows signs of breaking away from its alliance with and domination by the "interests." This has lately been especially noticeable in Kansas and the Dakotas where from present indications senators Long, Hansbrough and Kittredge, all servants of the interests and enemies of the people, will be retired, and more truly representative men, it is hoped, elected in their places.

These men will be Republicans, but if Republicans of the La Follette sort, if they will really be true to the people, the party name by which they are designated makes no difference. La Follette and Bristow, Folk and Chamberlain, can on all essential matters act together. There is substantially no difference between them, though two are Republicans and two are Democrats. But while these men of different party names can cooperate for the people's good, there is an impassable gulf between La Follette and Bristow, Republicans, and Aldrich and Hopkins—and most of the other Republican senators. Their motives, their methods, their purposes, and their conception of public service, are as different as black and white. So what does the party name amount to? Little, except as a means for deluding the voters.

But how is it that the Republican rank and file have been able thus to unseat their enemies and put probable friends in their places in a few states? By means of primary laws that gave the voters power to make a choice. Without such a law Long and Hansbrough and Kittredge, enemies of the people they are supposed to represent, would have been returned by the Republican machines, always cooperating with the predatory interests. "The party," the organization, is still in partnership with the interests, everywhere; it is only when the voters rebel against and overthrow "the party" that they can get true representatives.

The primary law has failed to accomplish the desired results in some states, in Illinois and California, for instance—unless the people should elect Democratic legislatures in order to oust the "interest" senators; but what it has accomplished in three states it will eventually accomplish in others, and the process of getting rid of these "railroad" senators will go on—unless perhaps in Darkest New England. And as the people use the power afforded by the primary laws, they will learn to become more independent, will learn that the party name after all is not the principle thing, but that what is needed is true, conscientious, broad-minded and in most matters really non-partisan representatives; will perceive the enormous "humbug" of "party."

It is because the people are thus unloading the pets of the party and the tools of the interests that the party leaders are opposed to these primary laws. Here in Oregon, where by Statement No. 1 the law has been simply carried to its logical conclusion as to senators, has merely been made symmetrically complete, the Republican party politicians are opposed to it, of course. The party organization invariably falls into the the hands of those who find it profitable to feed the interests with plunder filched from the people, and of course it is not safe for them for the people to know much and take much power in their own hands. When they do, the great structure falls, the colossal scheme collapses, the business of robbing the many for the enrichment of the few through party organizations and bosses and leaders fails. So the primary law is a great danger to the interests and the party politicians. No wonder they want to get rid of it in Oregon.

BIG BIRD RESERVES.

NOW the principal big lakes of southeastern Oregon, Klamath, Harney, Malheur and others, and their shores, have been converted into a wild-bird reserve by executive order, and nobody can kill any birds there any more. We suppose there is authority of law for this action, but while such a law, if reasonably and cautiously enforced, may have good results, it is questionable if it be wise to confer so much authority upon a single man, who may be one who acts sometimes on impulses, and who is inclined to be actuated on some occasions by violent schoolboy-like friendships.

The wholesale slaughter of birds for millinery purposes should certainly be suppressed, and all birds should be duly protected by law; but absolutely to prohibit the shooting of wild fowl in territories aggregating thousands of square miles seems to be carrying the bird protection policy to an unnecessary extreme.

But however that may be, these great lakes and marshes are within a duly organized state, which has or can have all the laws necessary for the protection of its birds. These grounds may be federal property yet, but people who go on them are subject to state laws. The state might be pleased to turn over any trouble it might have there to the federal government, if that were all that is to be considered; but if a federal order can extend this far, to what extent may not federal authority run within a state?

Besides, there is no occasion to prohibit all killing of wild fowl in these regions. They flock and breed there by hundreds of thousands, and the people of Oregon and visitors should have the right to kill them under reasonable restrictions. The slaughter of plumage birds for commercial purposes should be stopped, of course. But to prohibit all shooting of wild fowl in these extensive waters and marshes is unreasonable and absurd.

It was a good many years ago that Burke said to the British parliament:

"To levy a direct tax of 7 per cent is a dangerous experiment in a free country and may incite revolt, but there is a method by which you can tax the last rag from the back and the last bite from the mouth without causing a murmur against high taxes and that is to tax a great many articles of daily use and necessity so indirectly that the people will pay them and not know it. Their grumbling then will be of hard times, but they will not know that the hard times are caused by taxation."

This has indeed been done in this country for many years, but the people are understanding the system better, year by year. They would not complain if the government needed and got the money thus indirectly wrung from them, but they perceive that most of it goes into the hands of trusts for the purpose of making multi-millionaires and debauching the government in all its branches. The people know, now, better than they did in Burke's time, or better than he thought they would.

AN ANNUAL BIG PORTLAND CROP.

THISTLES and burdocks by hundreds of thousands, perhaps by millions, have "gone to seed," or are going, again in Portland. It was announced some months ago that the law requiring these weed pests to be cut in August, before they shed their noxious fruit, would be enforced. Some slight attempts, we believe, were made to enforce it, but these attempts were only few and spasmodic. Practically nothing was done, and the matter has apparently been forgotten.

It may be said that there were matters of more importance to attend to, and that enforcement of the law is difficult if not impossible. Neither excuse is sufficient. This is an important matter. These pests are an eyesore, a nuisance, an ugly offense, and a positive injury to the city. No city can be made beautiful while they exist in it. And a good law like this ought to be enforced. What are such laws for unless to be enforced? And it can be enforced. Or if not, let us have a law that can be.

Owners of vacant grounds where these weeds thrive year after year should be prosecuted. They are violators of the law. They are not performing a clear civic duty. They injure their neighbors and all passers-by by their dereliction of duty. Why should there be a constant lookout for the perpetrators of other misdemeanors, and no attention be paid to these misdemeaning citizens?

The Louisville Post remarks: "The Democratic party is gradually approaching the period of dissolution. It has developed no new claim to public confidence during the past 12 years." If the Democratic party is nearing dissolution, why is Chairman Hitchcock so vigorously rustling campaign funds and preparing to send out an army of speakers to explain why the Republican party has done or not done thus and so? Why organize so great a campaign to battle against a paralyzed party on its death bed? And how could the Democratic party have developed any claim to public confidence during the past 12 years when it has been completely out of power in every department of the government?

Many counties of the state should be emulous of one another in the matter of making exhibits and in attendance at the state fair, which will be held this year from September 14 to 19 inclusive. Of all the creditable and useful fall fairs in Oregon, this should be considered and made preeminent, a veritable "state" fair. The association is now in excellent condition, and the fair this fall gives promise of being better than ever before.

The Tacoma Ledger remarks: "When a president is of one political party and congress, or either branch of it, of another, little progress in legislation is made." This as a general proposition may be indisputable, but how did it happen that so little progress in legislation was made by the last congress, particularly the legislation urged by the Republican president? Or isn't he a Republican?

"Republicans who wish to see Washington politically all that it should be should go to the poles in September," says the Seattle Post Intelligencer. Typographical errors will occur in the best of newspapers, but it really might be well if a lot of state of Washington Republicans should go to the "poles" in September, and not return till after the 3d of November.

An electric line from Albany to Brownsville is projected or talked of. Boost it along, you Linn county people; it's just what you need. The Willamette valley should have hundreds of miles of such new roads within the next five years; they should link every town and large settlement, and every town and settlement can help get them.

Inexpressibly sad and awful terrible was the burning to death of six young children in a farm house in eastern Washington while the poor parents were away. There is a lesson here, too, writ in awful characters.

So steamers have again been put on the river between Riparia and Lewiston, from which it seems that the theory of railroad transportation being cheaper did not work.

Glass Headstones With Photograph.

From September Popular Mechanics. One of the large Pittsburg plate glass companies is manufacturing grave headstones of glass. The most unique feature of the new tombstone is the fact that in many of the orders executed the photographs of the deceased are blown in the glass.

Photographs of the deceased are also being placed on stone monuments. They are made by an underglazed photo-ceramic process on copper which is dipped in vitrified enamel and subjected to a heat of about 1,400 degrees F. They are then glazed and are guaranteed to be absolutely imperishable, unaffected by exposure to any kind of weather conditions.

Small Change

What glorious mornings to sleep.

Now, Mr. Bryan is quite happy again.

And why this quietness of Mr. Debs?

The paramount issue—campaign funds.

How fortunate Portland is in having no councilmen who "play politics."

What an endless amount and great variety of trouble women do cause.

Those Palouse mothers are not likely to want to go to a theatre again soon.

Some of the money for which bonds were voted should be turned loose soon.

Two years hence a good many cities will show a sudden shrinkage of population.

Candidate Sherman is coming out to tell the western farmers how the tariff has prospered them.

Now, one can almost hear the new railroads in Oregon coming—coming down out of "the air."

Deaf mutes are to hold a convention at Denver. The applause will strain fingers rather than lungs.

Poor people have various unappreciated advantages. For instance, they cannot afford to play golf.

The Salem Statesman is worrying about frost soon. Not in connection with the fair, it is to be hoped.

There is no difference between the parties now, says the Oregonian—but only one party has a recent record.

Wonder if a remark here that there have been few holdups lately would cause several holdups before it got into print.

Now, the city dads of Springfield, Ill., can busy themselves with devising ways and means for raising the money to pay the damages.

Mr. Harriman is quoted as saying Taft will do "if he keeps quiet." In some industrial establishments notices are posted. "No talking by employes."

Mr. Taft thinks he will enjoy making one speech a day. To be quite fair, shouldn't he make two, one for the progressionists and one for the reactionaries?

A man's religious belief or connection, so long as his character is above reproach and beyond suspicion, has nothing to do with his fitness for the presidency.

"So far this August has been a beautiful month," says the Roseburg News. So is every August, and every other month in Oregon. Even the most rainy months are beautiful.

The Republican managers are courting Senator Foraker, and he will make speeches—O, yes, but he reserves the right to say what he pleases, and he can be so disagreeable.

Dorando, the Marathon hero, is a pastry cook and is proud of it, saying that cooking is not a business but an art. Good cooking is certainly an art, and one in which there are few good artists.

Two Salem women have deserted their homes and families through attendance at "Holiness" meetings. "Holiness" evangelist who bring about such results sadly need prolonged exercise on a county rockpile.

The Salem Journal, which is a more or less Republican newspaper, says: "Why shove the blame into the shoes of the direct primary law, Bro. Scott? When wasn't the Republican party split in factions in Oregon? Like some other things, the worse split, the better the outcome."

"The plain citizen will not forget that a Republican victory this fall will mean a victory of the progressive wing, not of the reactionaries," says the Oregonian. He may not "forget" it, for the very good reason that he doesn't know it. It looks to him rather the other way about.

Bridegroom Meyers' sons care nothing about his money for themselves; they are quite indifferent as to what becomes of it when he dies; but they are anxious that the old gentleman should be steady and economical in his old age, the same as he taught them to be while young. 'Tis a pretty piece of filial devotion.

Oregon Sidelights

The Albany postoffice is to have an all-night service.

Winter will find Eugene with nearly five miles of paved streets.

Corvallis has a lady carpenter, tells the Gazette. She is also a woman.

Two physicians are to move away from Medford. Too healthy up there, probably.

The Hays triplets of Scio are thriving but no response has been received yet from President Roosevelt.

The La Grande Morning Star celebrated its first anniversary with an industrial and descriptive supplement.

Eugene Guard: Yesterday's Portland Journal contained a splendid descriptive half page devoted to Eugene and its attractions as a home city. The article will help Eugene and is appreciated by our people.

No section in the state has taken such a forward step in the breeding of light harness horses as has Douglas county, Or., the last year, says the Roseburg News. The condition for producing high-class horses in this section is considered the best.

Oak Grove correspondence of Albany Herald: Three square meals and four lunches—two in the forenoon and two in the afternoon—was demanded of the boss of the Henry Ridder threshing outfit by one of the crew. He also demanded his time if his wishes were not complied with. Mr. Ridder gave him his time.

There ought to be 50 new buildings erected in Albany at once to meet the demands of people for good places in which to reside, says the Democrat. The demand is increasing for comfortable homes, built in a modern way with up-to-date conveniences, and such houses at a reasonable rent will find plenty after them.

Dallas Observer: For more than a month the county has had its new rock crusher on the quarry near Salt creek busily grinding out the material that will give us such a system of highways throughout Polk county that there will be no need for an apostle to be sent among us, preaching the gospel of good roads and bidding us make our paths straight.

La Grande Star: Miss Mildred Clemens, the "Little Mark Twain" of Oregon, left last night for Baker City to continue her work as the contest manager of The Oregon Journal. During her stay in La Grande Miss Clemens scattered enough sunshine to ripen a field of sugar beets, and there is some talk of addressing a petition to The Journal to keep their contest manager in this field indefinitely.

Republicans of New Hampshire will meet in convention in Concord on September 17 to name candidates for the state offices to be filled at the November election.

ADMIRAL SHEPHERD NAMES HIS FULL STAFF

Admiral George S. Shepherd sent out his commissions today for the newly appointed members of his staff. The commission idea is a new one adopted by Mr. Shepherd this year. Each one of his aides gets a document with the official seal of the admiral of the fourteenth annual regatta at Astoria attached. This is copied after the phraseology of commissions in the navy, and is a unique souvenir for the holder to keep.

Deep water navigators for the most part compose the admiral's staff. Such well known sailors as Captain Ernst of the trans-Atlantic liner Alesia, and John McNulty nautical expert in the hydrographic service of the United States, will help Admiral Shepherd run off the big event at the mouth of the Columbia next week. Mr. McNulty, who is chief of staff, served under Dewey at Manila, and knows about all there is to know regarding sailing. The chaplain of the regatta staff will be Rev. Bernays of the Seamen's institute.

Illuminated Pageant.

On the night of the 28th the finest illuminated marine pageant ever seen on the shores of the Pacific is promised by the Astoria committee in charge of the regatta. Boats from all the towns on the Columbia river to the head of navigation will be sent down to take part in the aquatic spectacle. Whether Portland will join with the rest and send a boat is not certain as yet. Mayor Lane is averse to having the city spend any of the money which he thinks he will need in his campaign against vice in participating at Astoria.

Among the Portlanders who will be represented in the motor boat races are Lou Woodward, with his Airies II, and J. C. Ainsworth with the fleet Rochester. Other Portland vessels which will compete for prizes next week are the Corsair, a 36 foot yacht, owned by Max Meyer; the Peek-a-Boo, a 30 footer, owned by Byron Barr; the Naiad, 25 feet long, owned by Ted Breyman. These yachts are in class C, or among those that carry more than 500 square feet of sail.

Speedy Boats in List.

In the Class B yachts are included H. F. Todd's fast Fore and Aft, 28 feet long; the Dancin' Sal, 28-footer, owned by Francis D'Arcy; the Zephyr, 25-footer, owned by George Bannon; the McBarley, owned by Captain McDonald and the Aeolus. These last two are 25 feet long. The Terrier owned by Backenstraus & Smith and Synamox are other boats that will sail. Prideaux owns the Synamox which will be sailed by Leopold Bernays, of Guiding Star fame.

The officers and staff of regatta are announced as follows:

Admiral—George S. Shepherd.

Vice-Admiral—Of the Blue, Samuel Elmore; of the Red, F. L. Parker.

Rear Admiral—Of the Blue, Charles Richardson, U. S. L. T. Columbine; of the Red, P. J. Byrne, U. S. L. T. Heather; of the White, John Ernst, S. S. "Alesia."

Commodore—Of the Blue, J. F. McIndoe, U. S. E. Portland; of the Red, D. J. Morgan, Sp. "Leyland Bros."; of the White, Lawrence A. McNary, Portland.

Commodores—W. F. McGregor, Astoria; John Fox, Astoria; C. H. Callender, Astoria; J. C. Reed, S. S. Wallula; J. Simon, ship "Donna Francisco."

Admiral's staff—Chief of staff, John McNulty; flag officer, John F. McCue; fleet engineer, George F. Fuller; naval constructor, E. S. Edwards; fleet surgeon, C. H. Wheeler; fleet paymaster, C. F. Swigert; fleet chaplain, Arthur E. Bernays; fleet navigator, Jacob B. Speier.

Captains—Charles V. Brown, Astoria; Nelson Troyer, Astoria; C. T. Bailey, Astoria; Frank Patton, Astoria; H. F. Prael, Astoria; A. A. Finch, Astoria; C. H. Abercrombie, Astoria; T. S. Lamoreaux, Fort Stevens; Will A. Knight, commodore of Oregon Yacht club; Percy E. Stowell, president Portland Rowing club; George J. Kelly, president Motor Boat club; George McMillan, president M. A. A. C.; J. C. Ainsworth, Portland; H. W. Coe, Portland; William Souls, Portland; Arthur Callan, Portland; H. M. Montgomery, Portland; R. H. Gilbert, ship "Crawn of India"; John Running, Portland; Arthur C. Spencer, Portland; J. L. Wallin, Portland.

Commanders—R. A. Preston, Myrtle Creek; Albert Abraham, Roseburg; H. W. Thompson, Eugene; William Church, La Grande; C. A. Johns, Baker City; J. W. Maloney, Pendleton; Charles L. Early, Hood River; Clark W. Thompson, Cascade Locks; A. Fleischhauer, Stevenson; W. W. McCredie, Vancouver; James Sheldon, St. Helens; A. L. Watson, Kalama; Bruce Polworth, Cathlamet; W. D. Plue, Rainier; F. W. Wilson, The Dalles; Charles Pope, Oregon City.

LOCAL LAWYERS PLAN TO CAPTURE SEATTLE MEET

Thirty or more Portland attorneys will leave the city tomorrow or Monday to attend the sessions of the American Bar association at Seattle, which will open next Tuesday and close on Friday. The list includes many of the most prominent men at the Oregon bar. Others who intended going or desired to do so have found it impossible to arrange their business affairs satisfactorily, but the representation will be sufficiently large to attract attention to Oregon.

The idea of a special train or even of a special car has been abandoned, because it was found that 30 lawyers, or even a majority out of 30, could not agree on the same time for departure. Some wanted to go tomorrow, others during the day Monday, others Monday night, and still others will scatter along on Tuesday. All who go, however, will have the advantages of special rates, $7.50 for the round trip.

The three delegates who will represent the State Bar association are United States Judge C. E. Wolverton, ex-Judge Thomas O'Day of the circuit court and C. E. S. Wood. Following is a list of others who expect to go, so far as known, though some of those named may at the last moment be compelled to stay at home:

Attorney-General A. M. Crawford, Charles H. Carey, D. Solis Cohen, John M. Gearin, Thomas G. Greene, R. R. Duniway, W. W. Cotton, Fred W. Mulkey, H. H. Emmons, C. M. Idleman, J. Couch Flanders, F. V. Holman, S. B. Linthicum, Harrison Allen, Charles J. Schnabel, Lionel R. Webster, Alexander Bernstein, T. J. Cleeton, Arthur P. Tifft, Richard W. Montague, Milton Schwartz, W. Minor, E. T. Taggart, John K. Kollock, James Gilson, Jerry Bronaugh, Phil Herz, C. W. Petrain, Arthur Langguth and C. A. Bell.

One object of the Oregonians will be to induce as large a number as possible of the eastern and foreign visitors to Seattle to visit Portland before returning across the great divide. Those who come will be entertained and an effort made to acquaint them with the commercial advantages and resources of Portland and of Oregon. Among the delegates and visitors in Seattle will be some of the most eminent and influential lawyers in the country.

Chafin, Man of Few and Many Words, Will Get Out of Bed to Make a Speech

Eugene W. Chafin of Chicago, the Prohibitionist candidate for president, was nominated, his party claims, on account of the speech he made at the cold water convention. But judging from the statements of J. P. Newell, chairman of the state executive committee, he must have been chosen largely on account of his energy and his ability to talk at any and all times.

Chafin is to make a tour of Oregon in support of his own candidacy and the principles of his party, coming here from Washington. He is scheduled for four days in this state.

"Mr. Chafin is a man of tireless energy and has never been sick a day in his life," says J. P. Newell. He is good for six speeches a day from now until the end of the campaign. He can be called out of bed at any time to make a speech and he will begin talking before he gets his eyes open. He has made over 100 speeches in the past 33 days.

"Chafin was nominated largely on account of the speech he made at the convention, and because of the fact that he had most to do with drafting the platform. He embodied 14 planks in less than 350 words. The entire platform will go on a postal card"—and Mr. Newell produced one with the platform on it in support of his statement.

The itinerary arranged for the Prohibition candidate in this state is as follows: Friday, September 4—10 a. m., Newberg; 1:30 p. m., McMinnville; 8 p. m., Portland. Saturday, September 5—10:30 a. m., Woodburn; 2 p. m., Salem; 8 p. m., Albany. Sunday, September 6—11 a. m., Eugene; 8 p. m., Roseburg. Monday, September 7—11 a. m., Medford; 2 p. m., Ashland.

LIGHT GRADE ON WESTERN PACIFIC

Before next summer the construction work on the new Western Pacific line to the coast will be completed, according to information received by W. C. McBride of the Portland Denver & Rio Grande offices. The Western Pacific is the new Gould line from Salt Lake to San Francisco, and when completed will give the Gould systems a coast-to-coast line. As soon as the main line is completed extensions to Portland and the northwest will be commenced.

Figures published by the road show that it has no grade anywhere exceeding 1 per cent or a curve of more than 10 degrees, and has not a snowshed along its entire course. A table comparing the maximum gradient in feet per mile eastbound shows that the Canadian Pacific has 237-4.49 per cent, the Great Northern 116-2.2 per cent, the Northern Pacific 116-2.2 per cent, the Union Pacific-Central Pacific 116-2.2 per cent, Oregon Short Line 106-2.2 per cent, Santa Fe 175-3.3 per cent, the Western Pacific 52-8.1 per cent. This gives the new line a heavier grade only half as great as that of the O. R. & N., which ranks next to it in this respect, and will be an important factor in governing cheapness of operation.

JOHN ROACH STRATON DELIGHTS AUDIENCE

John Roach Straton of Baltimore, Md., pleased a large audience of northerners as well as southerners by his lecture, "The South in Song and Story," given at the White Temple last night. His negro dialect stories and his tales of plantation life were exceedingly interesting and he also recited poems by two of the southern song-writers, Father Ryan and Sydney Lanier, giving the former's "The Song of the Mystic" and Lanier's exquisite "Ballad of the Trees and the Master." The southern idea was carried out by the Jubilee Colored quartet singing plantation melodies.

MUSIC ONCE MORE IN PLAYHOUSES

There was music at the Orpheum last night, the difference between the management and the Musicians' union having been settled. The ultimate outcome is said to be in the nature of a victory for the musicians, although they, too, made concessions.

Ten men are to be employed at the Orpheum, and the wage scale is a compromise between the rate of $27 and $35 per week for side men and $35 and $45 per week for leaders. The exact terms, however, are not given out.

Neither George L. Baker president of the Theatrical Manager's association, nor the officers of the Musicians' union will discuss the result of yesterday afternoon's meeting beyond the statement that a settlement was arrived at and that the Orpheum will have an orchestra of 10 men at a new scale of wages. Mr. Baker would say nothing more than to state that the differences had been settled satisfactory to both sides.

George E. Jeffrey of San Francisco, who came to Portland with the Orpheum management, is the director of the orchestra which was organized yesterday afternoon and played for the first time last night. He was formerly with the old Tivoli orchestra in San Francisco and more recently conducted the Idora Park Opera company at Oakland, Cal. The other nine members of the Orpheum orchestra and the instruments they play are: Flute, Wilbur; clarinet, Rice; cornet, Livingston; trombone, Tait; drums, Dorchester; organ, Rosebrook; piano, Walz; bass, Maurer; violin, Thielhorn.

The Ninth Virginia district has long been a thorn in the side of the Old Dominion Democracy, for the reason that it is the only district to be represented in congress by a Republican. The Democrats now believe they have found the man to remove the thorn, in the person of J. Cloyd Byars, a hustling young attorney of Bristol, who has been named to make the race against C. B. Slemp, the Republican incumbent.

Letters From the People

Letters to The Journal should be written on one side of the paper only, and should be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The name will not be used if the writer asks that it be withheld. The Journal is not to be understood as indorsing the views or statements of correspondents. Letters should be made as brief as possible. Those who wish their letters returned when not used should inclose postage.

Correspondents are notified that letters exceeding 300 words in length may, at the discretion of the editor, be cut down to that limit.

The Bridge Controversy.

Portland, Aug. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—In your issue of the 19th is a communication from one William Grabach, in which he states that the recent meeting held in South Portland at the Harrison hotel by the citizens of that part of town to discuss the best location for a bridge, was "cut and dried." Mr. Grabach states that this meeting was got up for the express purpose of having the bridge located at First and Sherman streets, which is not true, as the gentlemen who attended that meeting were there without any selfish motives. If, after the ground has been examined by a competent engineer, Sherman street or any other street is found not to be as desirable, say, for instance, as Sheridan or Meade street, then the gentlemen who attended that meeting will be perfectly willing to have the bridge located at either of these streets, providing they ascertain it will be for the benefit of the people.

The citizens who attended that meeting believed then and do so now that Sherman street will be the best location for the bridge. Mr. Grabach speaks of having experts pass an opinion as to where in their judgment the bridge should be located. The citizens of this city have had the opinion of experts on many things, such as the fireboat, the reservoir, city park, etc. It has always proved a great financial loss and Portland has never derived any particular benefit from their work or recommendations.

The gentleman need not work himself into a nervous frenzy because the citizens of South Portland have decided to locate the bridge where it will give the best service to the public. Harmony has always prevailed at these meetings and will continue to do so, as the citizens of that part of town are all aiming for the same goal, the upbuilding of the city.

We will not employ an expert, but a competent engineer will be employed who thoroughly knows his business.

THOMAS GUINEAN.

The Merrill Corner.

Portland, Aug. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—In your report of the sale of the corner of Park and Morrison streets by Mrs. Merrill you did not state the facts regarding the option given by her to Hexter & Strause for 60 days and which you said they offered to pay the $50,000 before the option expired, and that Mrs. Merrill refused to take the money and give them a deed, and that they sued her for a conveyance of the same. All of which is misleading and gives the public a wrong impression as to the facts. Hexter & Strause bought out the butchers in possession of premises and took a new lease for five years, in which they agreed to put in a concrete basement, iron grating and sanitary plumbing and keep the premises clean and free from all foul odors; the improvement was the only consideration, all of which covenants they failed to perform, and instead kept a very foul and unsanitary market. The city market inspector, Mrs. Evans, visited the place 13 times in one month to require them to abate the nuisance. They paid no money except their rent, which was reduced from $125 to $100 per month to enable them to make the improvements as embodied in the lease. Mrs. Merrill sued them in Judge Frazer's court to set aside the lease and vacate the premises. Judge Frazer decided against Mrs. Merrill, saying the tenants were not obliged to make the improvements, notwithstanding a year had elapsed and they had paid no money nor complied with the terms of the lease. The injustice was uncalled for in a court of equity, and Mrs. Merrill appealed to the court of last resort for justice, with the result that readers of your valuable Journal throughout Oregon have read and marveled that a property worth $100,000 should be sold for half the value.

E. S. MERRILL.

His Wife or the King.

From the Pendleton East Oregonian.

Jacob Riis, the prominent Danish journalist, lecturer and Roosevelt biographer who lectured in Pendleton two years ago, called upon the king of Denmark this week and was warmly welcomed. He gave the king the greeting of President Roosevelt and enjoyed his visit immensely.

Finally the king waxed sociable and invited Riis to dine with him. "I will if I may bring my wife," replied Riis. The interview ended abruptly and awkwardly. The king was unused to this blunt American way. The invitation of the king had always been considered a sacred, almost divine recognition among the mortals in the shadow of the throne.

But to this Americanized Dane it was nothing compared to a man's devotion to and respect for his wife. Riis cared but little for the favor of the king. As an American citizen he is a king himself. And because his wife was not included in the king's favor, Riis scorned it.

Every American citizen thrills with pride at the simple dignity which characterized Riis' refusal to dine with a king.

Joseph E. Ralph's Birthday.

Joseph E. Ralph, director of the bureau of engraving and printing at Washington, was born in Allegheny City, Pa., August 22, 1863, but spent most of his boyhood in Joliet, Ill. After leaving school he started to work in a machine shop. From an apprentice boy he worked his way upward until he became an expert mechanic and superintendent of a large iron and steel works. He became the head of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, which position first brought him into public notice. He was appointed assistant postmaster of the house of representatives and while holding this position he took a course in law at Georgetown university. His next position was that of superintendent of construction at Ellis Island and next he was appointed deputy collector of the customs department of the Chicago world's fair. In 1898 he became assistant director of the bureau of engraving and printing and last year upon the death of Director Thomas J. Sullivan, Mr. Ralph was appointed to fill the vacancy.

This Date in History.

1485—Richard III killed on Bosworth field. Born October 2, 1452.

1795—French directory established.

1817—John B. Gough, noted temperance lecturer, born. Died February 17, 1886.

1818—The Savannah, the first steam vessel to cross the ocean, launched at New York.

1829—First temperance society formed in Ireland.

1846—Annexation of New Mexico to the United States.

1851—The yacht America won the now famous cup at the international regatta at Cowes, England.

1878—The independence of Servia proclaimed at Belgrade.

1886—William J. Kendall, clothed in a cork vest, swam through the Niagara whirlpool rapids.

Primary Elections.

From the Public.

As Governor Folk has said, if the direct primary system is wrong, democracy is wrong. And it is true in this matter as in all others, that the cure for the evils of democracy is more democracy. If the primary election law of Illinois should be amended in that spirit, and then be supplemented by a change in the ballot system at regular elections, by which it should be made what the Massachusetts and Minnesota systems are—incentives instead of hindrances to independent voting—we should have made a great advance in self-government.