EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

Published every evening (except Sunday) and every Sunday morning at The Journal Building, Fifth and Yamhill streets, Portland, Or.

Entered at the postoffice at Portland, Or., for transmission through the mails as second-class matter.

TELEPHONES—MAIN 7173. HOME, A-6051. All departments reached by these numbers. Tell the operator the department you want. East Side office, B-2444; East 839.

FOREIGN ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE. Vreeland-Benjamin Special Advertising Agency, Brunswick Building, 225 Fifth avenue, New York; 1007-08 Boyce Building, Chicago.

Subscription Terms by mail or to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico:

DAILY.

One year.....$5.00 | One month.....$ .50

SUNDAY.

One year.....$2.50 | One month.....$ .25

DAILY AND SUNDAY.

One year.....$7.50 | One month.....$ .65

To have what we want, is riches; but to be able to do without, is power.—George Macdonald.

SENATOR SCHOLFIELD'S PLEDGE

IN A newspaper forecast of legislators who will vote for and against the people's choice for senator is the name of Senator Scholfield. Curiously enough this name appears in the column with those who will vote against the popular choice. It is unbelievable that Senator Scholfield will appear in such an alignment. It is understandable, that coming from the home of Senator Fulton, his environments make it difficult for him to vote against a man from his own county. All his associations and surroundings, all his social and business relations are an appeal to him to vote for Senator Fulton.

But Senator Scholfield is a pledged legislator. When he became a candidate for his present position he took this pledge;

"To the members of the Republican party and the electors of Clatsop county: I, W. T. Scholfield, further state to the people of Oregon as well as to the people of my legislative district that, during my term of office, I will always vote for the candidate for United States senator in congress who has received the highest number of the people's votes for that position at the general election next preceding the election of a senator in congress, without regard to my individual preference."

This pledge by Senator Scholfield is on file in the office of the secretary of state at Salem, where it is a public record. It was in consideration of his taking this pledge that Mr. Scholfield was nominated and elected senator. What is more, in the vote last June the people of Clatsop county instructed Senator Scholfield to vote for the people's choice. The expression was on the initiative measure commanding the legislators to vote for the people's choice, and the vote on it in Clatsop county stood 1323 for and 641 against. The instruction to Senator Scholfield to vote for the people's choice was overwhelming, standing more than two to one. It is impossible for Senator Scholfield to allow any influence, no matter what his business, social or other relations at Astoria, to lead him to do otherwise than to keep his pledge inviolable. It is a pledge that Senator Fulton himself has said "is an obligation as olemn as the oath of office." And there is another reason. Senator Scholfield is a Washington county boy. His father was an Oregon pioneer, a member of that hardy race that saved Oregon to the union. That father's name was unsullied by any dishonorable act and as such passed to the son. The elder Scholfield, by an honorable career, established for himself and family a reputation for fidelity in all business and political obligations. He was for years a trustee of Monmouth college and filled other positions of honor and trust, in none of which was he ever disloyal to duty. Wherever he was known his name stood for integrity and the straightforward, sturdy course that all men admire and applaud. It seems impossible that the name made honorable by the father is to be sullied by the son, and for that reason The Journal refuses to believe the alignment given the senator.

A COLLEGE ENDOWMENT

FOR EVERY dollar raised in Oregon, friends in the east will give another dollar for a further endowment of $50,000 for Albany college. A canvass for funds is in progress in Portland, and but four days remain for the effort. Friends in this city will doubtless rally around the plan. The smaller denominational institutions are as essential to the educational system as the larger state establishments. Every added revenue to learning, every added opportunity for youth to drink at the fountain of knowledge is an asset for a more militant race and for a better social and economic life. In addition to the avenue it opens to knowledge the denominational institution presents phases not found in the non-sectarian schools, and these phases strongly appeal to a large section of our population. In addition their smaller enrollment, their quieter conditions, their closer relations between instructor and instructed and the family-like ties prevalent in their student life, make them to some a more desirable educational instrumentality than are the larger state establishments.

By the measure of its educational resources, a state advances or is nonprogressive. By the same measure a self-governing nation is safe or unsafe. Past experiments in self-government have failed by reason of an illiterate electorate. With a more widely diffused knowledge some of the old free governments of the past might not have perished.

In any event every agency of education in this country ought to be fostered, the denominational college among them, and by that token more endowment for Albany college is more stability for this last and greatest experiment in human freedom.

PREPARE FOR DISAPPOINTMENT

THE PEOPLE of the northwest should prepare to be disappointed if they expect a general rivers and harbors bill this session.

Under the lead of Hon. Joseph E. Ransdell, the president of the national rivers and harbors congress, a gallant fight has been made for this very necessary measure, but everything indicates that it will be defeated by the same policy that defeated the Fulton amendment to the act to regulate commerce—delay.

Congress will adjourn on March 4. At this writing no one can say positively whether there will be a rivers and harbors bill. But it is reasonably safe to say that it is a physical impossiblity to frame a general rivers and harbors bill and pass it through the house and senate this session. It is known that it will meet with obstacles in the senate; and many members in the house are but lukewarm in its support. Therefore but very slight filibustering tactics or delay would defeat it. It is not improbable that a small bill will pass, appropriating a sufficient sum to maintain the work on projects which require continuance in order to preserve them and prevent loss, but that any other projects or any new projects will be taken up is extremely doubtful.

There is a treasury deficit, and although this deficit is not chargeable to appropriations for rivers and harbors, they will have to wait for the future. The result will be that substantially all of the work in the northwest will cease during the year 1909. This outcome teaches two lessons, one that we should help ourselves and if the general government will not do it, we must. The other is that the people must cease allowing themselves to be fooled and deceived by those pretending to represent them. It is doubtful if a single member of congress, whether a candidate for the house of representatives or the senate during the last campaign, expressed himself otherwise than absolutely in favor of river and harbor improvements. The platforms of both the political parties contained the same assertion, yet these same gentlemen find it impossible, after election, to devise any means by which a river and harbor bill can be passed. Just how the improvements can be made without money has not been made clear.

The interest of some of these same gentlemen is almost as sincere as Mark Twain's grief when he wept over the grave of Adams.

As a matter of fact the only reasonable way these projects will ever be completed within any reasonable time is exactly on the same basis as that which prevents delay on the Panama canal, to-wit, when the ordinary revenues are insufficient, bonds are provided to be sold and the work continues.

We have now the spectacle presented to the people of this country of continuous work on the Panama canal, which will be just as beneficial to the nations of the world generally as it will to our own (and, until our merchant marine is built up, more so), while on the other hand the work in our own country, which is a necessity and which would benefit our own people, must cease because congress can devise no way by which our own work can go on, although there apparently is no difficulty in finding methods to continue work in foreign countries.

PORTLAND'S LOW DEATH RATE

THE DEATH rate for Portland for 1908 was 7.14 per 1000 of population, according to the report of the city health board. The rate is figured on a basis of 250,000 population. Determined on a basis of 200,000 population it would give a death rate of less than 9. In comparison with the mortality of other cities of the country it is a gratifying showing. The rate for the year 1900 in some of the leading cities was as follows: Washington, 22.8; Boston, 20.1; Detroit, 17.1; Jersey City, 20.7; Newark, 19.8; Buffalo, 14.8; Providence, 19.9; Los Angeles, 18.1; San Francisco, 20.5; Denver, 18.6; Chicago, 16.2; New York, 20.4; Indianapolis, 16.7; Louisville, 20; New Orleans, 28.9; Baltimore, 21; Minneapolis, 10.8; Kansas City, 17.4; Philadelphia, 21.

Later figures for the cities named would show a somewhat decreased death rate. Better sanitation, better scrutiny of water, milk and food supplies, more attention by health departments and the discoveries of science with respect to causes and prevention of disease have almost everywhere reduced the mortality figures. In the decade from 1890 to 1900 death rates fell as follows: Washington, from 23.7 to 22.8; Boston, 23.4 to 20.1; Detroit, 18.7 to 17.1; Jersey City, 25.6 to 20.7; Buffalo, 18.4 to 14.8; Los Angeles, 20 to 18.1; San Francisco, 22.5 to 20.5; Denver, 23 to 18.6; Chicago, 19.1 to 16.2; New York, 25.3 to 20.4. Other cities showed an increase in the death rate, among them, Kansas City from 17.3 to 17.4; St. Louis, 17.4 to 17.9; Columbus, 14.7 to 15.8; New Orleans, 26.3 to 28.

In any event Portland's mortality statistics are a source of infinite pride. They attest the favorable character of climate, environment and conditions. The unsurpassed water supply is unquestionably a large factor in the showing. It cost money, but money is a small consideration when thrown into the balance against human life. That a further reduction in the mortality average could be made by a perfecting of sanitary and surveillance arrangements is unquestionable. Is it not an enterprise worth while?

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

FEW DECISIONS of the United States supreme court were of more importance than that one recently rendered in favor of the 80-cent gas law in New York city, and one of the most important and valuable principles laid down in this decision is that a legislative act is not presumptively open to injunction in the federal courts. This will stop or check an evil practice that had become entirely too common. As the New York World says:

"Things had come to a stage where any corporation opposed to an act which a legislature had passed and a governor had approved felt aggrieved if it could not offhand secure an injunction from a minor federal judge. Often the attempt succeeded. The effect was to delay enforcement of the law for years and almost to make a farce of legislative attempts to regulate public service corporations."

The supreme court says that reasonable legislative regulation of a corporation "does not warrant the interference of a court of equity before an actual bona fide test has been made under the practical operation." On the question of the valuation of the gas company's franchise, the court admits the company's figure, $7,781,000, only because the legislature expressly authorized this capitalization when it permitted the creation of the monopoly. Otherwise it would have no "good will" valuation. The legislature can repeal this act of valuation; the court recognized the legislature's complete power in this respect.

With the start made, a good business session of the legislature will be possible when the senatorship is out of the way. It was to get that demoralizing influence out of the way that the people took the selection of senator into their own hands. In addition to the desire to choose a senator to their own liking, they wanted the way cleared for good constructive work at the session. It was unfortunate and costly experiences in the past that led them to this step. Though outside politicians and machine heelers are trying to turn the legislature back into the old and discredited channels, the good sense of the great body of the members seems likely to hold the proceedings to the new and better course and to give the state an orderly and valuable session.

The legislature did itself credit in putting an end to the usual investigations of state departments and accounts by legislative committees. The method was impossible on its face. It was a useless expense that brought no results. In evidence there were the past investigations by several such committees of the accounts of George W. Davis, clerk of the school land board, without a discovery by either of the large default that existed at the very moment the investigations were on. The whole process was fruitful of nothing but salaries for incompetent clerks. Investigations of the sort are the field for expert accountants. The substitution by the session of a plan where the work will be accurately and effectively done is a business process by business men.

A dispatch gives the impression that the report of Mr. Holabird, one of Mr. Harriman's trusted investigators, on the Coos Bay-Drain railroad is entirely favorable and that on the strength of it Mr. Harriman is pretty sure to go ahead soon with the building of the road. It will be remembered that he said last summer that he would build the road just as soon as he could be assured that the traffic would pay 6 per cent interest on $5,000,000, its estimated cost. The impression is given out that Mr. Holabird's report, gives this assurance, and it certainly need not exaggerate any to do so, hence hope of the early construction of that long-needed road is revived.

The school board of Cleveland has taken what some people will consider a reactionary step, in cutting out of the grammar school studies what they consider the "frills" and non-essentials, as to most pupils, and giving more time and attention to "the three R's," the really common branches for which all pupils will have use. Lessons in music and drawing, for example, will be limited to 12 minutes a day, because they will be of practical use to but comparatively few, and these few should get instruction in them outside the common schools. The principle is the greatest good to the greatest number, and it is sound. The public schools should be a very democratic institution. There is likely after a little to be a reaction throughout the country against so many non-essentials for the masses in the common schools.

A Chehalis county, Washington, youth was so badly frozen while on a hunting trip that both his arms and both legs, or portions of them, will have to be amputated, and it is stated that "he may die." To die, under such circumstances, would be fortunate; to let him die, though not permissible if his life can be saved, would be an act of mercy.

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.

Dissatisfied.

Portland, Or., Jan. 14.—To the Editor of The Journal—I noted with considerable interest your editorial in yesterday's issue under the caption, "Fit School Houses for Winter," and to my mind, you have touched on a subject that deserves recognition by those who have it in their power to remedy a matter, which in many other sections of the United States, does not exist, though the weather is much more severe.

After making all due allowances for the general unpreparedness of the people of this city for cold weather, the fact remains that some of the schoolhouses were comfortably warm, and for that reason they should have been kept open for the benefit of those who could and would have attended every day, had the opportunity been afforded.

It is also the opinion of the writer that the schools have been closed on other occasions with less excuse than that afforded by the recent cold weather. I refer particularly to the closing one day in order to permit the children to attend the stock show some time since. The show was a very creditable enterprise; one that should receive the moral and financial assistance of all those who class themselves among the citizens of Portland, but I cannot reconcile the belief that it is necessary to close the schools, in order to insure its success. I venture the assertion that a considerable majority of the scholars did not attend the show on that day. Your statement to the effect that there are a sufficient number of holidays is to the point and can be best appreciated by those of us who have children to educate.

Without exceeding the bounds of propriety, you might have touched another subject along the same lines, and that is the fact that as soon as a few flakes of snow appear, accompanied by a moderate wind, the prices of foodstuffs rise in the same ratio that the mercury drops and it is very discouraging to one trying to make both ends meet on a salary commensurate with nature's endowment of brain and brawn, and the arbitrary valuation of one's services as placed by another. And this will appeal stronger to those who have lived in the north central part of the union where they have real winter for several months.

Your files record the publication of an article of recent date heralding the fact that prices had advanced on such staple necessaries as butter, eggs and meat and the probable advance of sugar, fuel, etc., all on account of the storm. Later you stated that a large supply of sugar had been received and there would be no immediate danger of a shortage. The censorship is not complete. Such news as the receipt of supplies should be suppressed. If the advance affected luxuries only we could endure it, but there seems to have been no shortage in this line of goods. At the time you published this news, if I remember correctly, all the railroads entering Portland, as well as the boat lines, were maintaining their regular service and aside from the comparatively small supply hauled into the city by team, it requires an elastic imagination to make the actual conditions compatible with the subterfuge set up and a more elastic purse to meet the demands of those dependent upon us.

There are some portions of this glorious hemisphere of ours where at times they are shut off from the outer world for two or three weeks at a stretch and where it requires the combined efforts of from five to ten large locomotives behind a rotary snow plow to punch a hole through to other more favored parts, but at the same time the more unfortunate ones are not squeezed for their last dollar.

It may be said that if we do not like conditions here we are at liberty to go elsewhere and no doubt that is true, providing we could save enough to provide a few bean sandwiches for the journey, but to me it appears that if the news goes abroad that prices are advanced for such apparently inadequate reasons, it will do much towards preventing the influx of homeseekers so much needed by the state of Oregon.

It is not up to me to criticize nature, but it is regrettable that some of us were not provided with suitable apparatus that we might browse on the 46 species of the Genus Carduus, some of which are to be found in most every clime. Even then I'd have become pessimistic enough to remark that some one would have a corner on them and we would be stung again.

A CALAMITY HOWLER.

Legislators Must Keep Pledges.

Dayton, Or., Jan. 15.—To the Editor of The Journal—The campaign of education so vigorously waged through your columns with reference to the direct primary law, your intelligent discussion of the law in all its phases, your painstaking efforts to keep your readers advised of the trend of opinion in the country at large, with reference to the situation in our state, has resulted in a clearer understanding of this law than we have heretofore possessed. With increased knowledge has come greater devotion to this law, until now there is no possibility that the people of Oregon will ever be content to return to the methods which maintained when the logrolling, wirepulling, professional politician ran the state and elected whoever supplied the most lubricant for the machine, or who would best serve the purposes of the boss.

No better illustration of the wisdom of this law, in this, that it insures our people the right to name their officers, will ever be witnessed than will the election of Honorable George E. Chamberlain as senator, by the legislature now in session. That he will be elected, that the men who solemnly agreed with their constituents that they would vote for the people's choice for senator, will redeem their pledges, there is no question.

These are honorable men, and they will not allow to attach to their names the odium which has followed Benedict Arnold to this day and will continue to surround his memory while men love honor and truth and virtue. To assume they will do other than vote for Governor Chamberlain is to impeach their intelligence.

The men of high or low degree who are singing the song of the siren to the statement members of the legislature, will no doubt promise the men they are attempting to debauch as many things as the devil promised Christ, but their purpose accomplished they would turn from the one who allows himself to be used to betray a people as from one polluted.

The fact is that no one knows better than the few self appointed guardians of the voters of Oregon that any statement member who votes for other than Governor Chamberlain, digs his own political and social grave. The masses know that Governor Chamberlain is honest and competent to ably represent them in our national congress. They demand his election not only because they have named him for the office, but because they have asserted their right to indicate their choice and from this position they have no intention of receding.

The voters of this section in intelligence, in patriotism, in obedience to law, compare favorably with those of any other section of Oregon and there is not among them one, so far as is known to the writer, who opposes the election of Governor Chamberlain; on the contrary, many of them are outspoken in their demand for his election and there are no advocates of this course more earnest in their utterances than loyal Republicans who supported Mr. Fulton or Mr. Cake for the office.

YAMHILL.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Much obliged to the mercury.

• •

The moon has changed. That fixed the snow.

• •

Whalebone is worth $10,000 a ton. This beats butter.

• •

The Lincoln centennial is a proper day for a holiday.

• •

As to the forthcoming cabinet, it is, in golf parlance, two up and six to go.

• •

The night riders, like the elder Mr. Weller, depended vainly on the "alley-by."

• •

Oregon as a state is almost 50 years old, but in development is only a kid yet.

• •

Women persist in crowding into men's business sphere; a girl cashier is an embezzler.

• •

The sympathy of "My Dear Maria," and Mrs. Minor Morris is undoubtedly with congress.

• •

Nobody can "destroy the Republican party" but the people—or the party's foolish leaders.

• •

Governor Magoon of Cuba will soon have to get a new job, and he isn't like a man that can't.

• •

This is an excellent time of year for reform; less of anything else doing than at any other time.

• •

The weather having sobered up, it is hoped it has resolved not to go on another spree this winter.

• •

One affliction follows another—though all are bearable, most of them light. Billy Sunday is coming.

• •

If the congressional chambers become chilly, there is plenty of fuel in the shape of presidential messages.

• •

If we could understand bird talk we would get far more dependable weather predictions than any weather man can give us.

• •

There seems to be really nothing in the senatorial situation to confer or caucus about; there's the law, passed by the people.

• •

It has been tough weather on old bachelors, says the Albany Democrat. Oh, we don't know, he has had no cold feet against his back.

• •

"Whenever Oregon thaws out," remarks the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. Which will be done a little sooner and quicker than in Washington.

• •

Chicago Record-Herald: Senator Bourne smokes cigars which cost $1 each. He probably does not get them out of the box that he uses in his campaigns.

• •

Mr. McHarg apparently needs a Statement No. 1 on the part of members of the Oregon legislature, that could be condensed into: "Go to — Chicago."

• •

Lieutenant Governor Coon of Washington is trying to hang on to the office, though overwhelmingly defeated for the renomination. He needs to be politically skinned, and his hide hung on the fence.

• •

Thomas W. Lawson is publishing a series of articles in The New England Magazine. Concerning one just published he says: "Pump hearted men and women everywhere should read this chapter that they may be equipped to understand the soul soaring parts to follow. Through the first and second parts, Mr. Lawson's forked pen canters to the gallop which is to carry his story to the wild, weird, wizarding wakon which signboards America's finish." And yet the authorities don't put Tom into a lunatic asylum.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS.

Hermiston water users are having a big row.

• •

There were 236 births and 147 deaths in Douglas county last year.

• •

During the past year Umatilla county paid off about $14,000 of its debt.

• •

Prospects for both grain and stock are very bright in Morrow county.

• •

Nearly $40,000 will be spent in Lincoln county this year for good roads.

• •

Many men who went to Wallowa county a few years ago with little or no capital are now well-to-do.

• •

Councilman C. J. Curtis of Astoria circulated a 25 cents apiece subscription paper for funds to feed the starving birds.

• •

Canby Tribune: This issue of the paper is late because it was so cold our type froze and we had to wait for it to thaw out.

• •

Stephen A. Douglas Meek, representative from Washington county, is a son of Joseph L. Meek, one of the earliest of Oregon's early pioneers.

• •

The new census gives Polk 4113 persons of school age, as compared with a total of 3949 in the census of last year. Of this 4113, 1994 are boys and 2119 girls.

• •

Brownsville Times: Although a large number of houses were erected last year they are all occupied and the demand for more is greater than ever before.

• •

H. R. Kincaid has bought the Renshaw farm, containing 900 acres, situated five miles from Eugene, and expects to divide it up into 80 or 40 acre or smaller tracts and sell it to settlers on easy payments or cash as fast as there is a demand that will reimburse him for expenses, care and risk for managing the enterprise. They will furnish good homes for 20 or 30 families and several hundred people.

• •

Vale Oriano: When the oil companies were first organized in the Malheur field, we were all skeptics. We thought it was a money making, money grabbing, stock combination, but with the coming of the big machines, the drilling of the wells, the expenditure of large sums of money, the examination by experts, their favorable report, followed by companies being organized as a result we all caught the spirit, and we all believe there is oil in this field, and that it will be found where these different companies are now drilling.

• •

Salem Journal: It is refreshing to observe the solicitude with which Senator Beach and Shanghai Brown hover over one of the Multnomah delegation. They fairly cover him with a halo of glory when one on each side spreads the shelter of his wings over the manly form. Going through the lobby yesterday, Shanghai brushed against Beals of Tillamook who shrank away in terror, saying: "I wouldn't have that man touch me for my farm down in Tillamook." Beals has served several terms in the legislature and seems to be a fairly honest man.

• •

Thousands of dollars will be spent this year by Lincoln county in fixing up old roads and in building new ones, says the Mail. A remarkable feature of the work will be the utilization for construction of the vast shell mounds found in every part of the county. In many places, notably from Yaquina Head to Siletz bay, these deposits are so extensive as to defy measurement except by the thousands of cubic yards. One stretch of the coast beyond Rack creek has several miles of these mounds. Experience has shown that there is no material better adapted for toe making of a good road surface than these shells.

FAMOUS GEMS OF PROSE

"Patriotism a Glorious Reality"—By Thomas Francis Meagher

(From a speech in Music hal', Dublin, against the acceptance of places from the British government, July 7, 1847.)

Bereft of patriotism, the heart of a nation will be cold and cramped and sordid; the arts will have no enduring impulse and commerce no invigorating soul; society will degenerate and the mean and vicious triumph. Patriotism is not a wild and glittering passion, but a glorious reality. The virtue that gave to paganism its dazzling luster, to barbarism its redeeming trait, to Christianity its heroic form, is not dead. It still lives to console, to sanctify humanity. It has its altar in every clime, its worship and festivities.

On the heathered hills of Scotland the sword of Wallace is yet a bright tradition. The genius of France, in the brilliant literature of the day, pays its homage to the piety and heroism of the young maid of Orleans. In her new senate hall, England bids her sculptor place, among the effigies of her greatest sons, the images of Hampden and of Russell. In the gay and graceful capital of Belgium the daring hand of Geefs has reared a monument full of glorious meaning to the 300 martyrs of the revolution. By the soft blue waters of Lake Lucerne stands the chapel of William Tell. On the anniversary of his revolt and victory, across those waters as they glitter in the July sun, skim the light boats of the allied Cantons; from the prows hang the banners of the republic, and, as they near the sacred spot, the daughters of Lucerne chant the hymns of their old poetic land. Then bursts forth the glad Te Deum, and heaven again hears the voice of that wild chivalry of the mountains, which five centuries since pierced the white eagle of Vienna, and flung it bleeding on the rocks of Uri.

At Innspruck, in the black aisle of the old cathedral, the peasant of Tyrol kneels before the statue of Andreas Hofer. In the defiles and valleys of the Tyrol, who forgets the day on which he fell within the walls of Mantua? It is a festal day all through his quiet, noble land. In that old cathedral his inspiring memory is recalled amid the pageantries of the altar; his image appears in every house; his victories and virtues are proclaimed in the songs of the people; and when the sun goes down a chain of fires, in the deep red light of which the eagle spreads his wings and holds his giddy revelry, proclaims the glory of the chief whose blood has made his native land a sainted spot in Europe.

Impossible.

From Collier's Weekly.

Fifty-one members of the Oregon legislature, which sits this month to elect a United States senator, when they went before the people as candidates in April, signed the following written pledge:

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

Automatically, by the result of the primary, the last four lines of this pledge became "George E. Chamberlain," so that the pledge now reads:

"I further state to the people of Oregon, as well as to the people of my legislative district, that during my term of office I will always vote for George E. Chamberlain for United States senator in congress."

That is all there is to the Oregon situation. Charles W. Fulton has spent a number of weeks going up and down the east, clamoring with national Republican leaders to bring pressure or persuasion to bear on signers of this pledge to repudiate their promises. We doubt if he has found a national leader so devoid of the instinct of self-preservation, not to mention moral sense, as to use this spade for digging his political grave. Theodore Roosevelt did the right thing the other day when he greeted Governor Chamberlain as "senator-elect."

Unreliable.

From the Harney Valley News.

In the Oregonian's anxiety to shape the organization of the legislature in accordance with its wishes, its news reports on that subject are absolutely unreliable. That is poor policy for such a great newspaper.

Hadley on Newspapers

From the Youth's Companion.

President A. T. Hadley of Yale has written a very interesting article in a recent issue of the Youth's Companion on the subject of reading newspapers. he says, quoting his article in part: "Among the many reforms which are needed in American politics, a reform in the spirit in which we read our newspapers is one of the most important.

"Our statute books are full of instances of laws which are evaded or nullified because they have not the public sentiment of the people behind them. The newspapers are the chief agents in forming public opinion. This used to be done by courts of law and by political assemblies, but the modern newspaper has supplanted both as a forum of public discussion and as a means of public education.

"A hundred years ago intelligent men used to learn about the workings of the law either by serving on juries or by reading the decisions of the judges; but the jury service is today managed so badly that in most of the states no intelligent man wishes to serve on a jury if he can help it. And if he does have to serve on a jury, he does not gain an understanding of the law as much as a contempt for the way in which criminal lawyers are allowed to misapply it. And most of the decisions of present day judges on questions like railroad management, or the equities of taxation, are so much occupied with precedents and so little actual facts that they have very slight effect on public opinion.

"Nor do the people get the instruction from a political speech which they did two or three generations ago. Political speakers may address enthusiastic meetings, but their addresses are appeals to the emotions of men who have already formed their views, other than deliberate discussions with a view to aid in their formation.

"Long before the great public speeches have been made on questions at issue the facts have been set before the people in the news columns of their papers, and the arguments drawn from them with more or less care in the editorials, so that a speech in the senate or house of representatives serves rather to register the reason for a decision already formed by the voters than as a means of influencing any man or arriving at a common understanding on any measure. The invention of the telegraph and the immense use of newsgathering agencies have made the newspaper press the source through which the people go to get their facts, and the real forum in which public issues are discussed.

"If we want responsible government, we must have responsible newspapers. If we are to have responsible newspapers the reform must begin with the readers themselves. The newspaper reader must get into the habit of seeing whether the statements of fact in his paper are supported by evidence or not. It is not possible for a country to be well governed unless the people who do the reading are in the habit of weighing evidence. If they shut their eyes to all facts except those that they like, the government will be at the mercy of passion and prejudice."

Same in Many Towns.

Of some young hoodlums who persistently disturbed a religious meeting, the Weston Leader says: Tough youngsters are allowed too much latitude in this town, anyway. Frequently, foul oaths are heard on the street, proceeding from a gang of unmannerly cubs who are rapidly gravitating toward the penitentiaries and asylums. If their parents can do nothing with them, the authorities must. They are becoming social outcasts, obscene and dissolute, whose presence is a disgrace to any community with pretensions toward decency. When they become pestiferous again, they should be promptly jailed; should they repeat the offense, they should be run out of town. They themselves deserve no consideration; their parents no sympathy, except that which is naturally extended to the weak and incapable. Weston must be delivered from this bunch of Apaches, this wretched gang of hooligans, whose mouths seem only fit for oaths, whose necks for hemp, and whose legs for shackles. They may be capable of moral regeneration but the first step toward that end should be an effective squelching.

Sir John Lane Harrington's Birthday.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Lane Harrington, a distinguished officer of the British army, was born January 16, 1865, and was educated at Stonyhurst college. In 1884 he entered the army. At the outset of his career he enlisted as a private, but his abilities quickly secured him notice, and he was transferred to the foreign office, where he soon established a reputation. From 1895 to 1898 he was vice-consul at Zaila, and in 1903 he became minister plenipotentiary at the court of the Emperor Menelik. On one occasion he induced the late Queen Victoria to speak a message of good will into a phonograph, and had it repeated before the astonished Menelik in his own country. When the Abyssinian monarch heard the voice of the great white queen his delight was unbounded, and Sir John Harrington was henceforth regarded by him as little short of a magician.

This Date in History.

1780—Rodney defeated the Spanish fleet off Cape St. Vincent.

1809—Sir John Moore killed at battle of Corunna. Born November 13, 1761.

1817—Alexander J. Dallas, father of "United States bank," died. Born 1759.

1853—Divorce court instituted in England.

1871—United States supreme court declared the legal tender act of 1862 constitutional.

1883—Robert E. Pattison inaugurated governor of Pennsylvania.

1903—Hundreds of persons killed by tidal wave that swept over South Sea islands.

1906 — Marshall Field, millionaire merchant, died. Born 1835.

1907—The Rt. Rev. Arthur Sweatman, bishop of Toronto, elected primate of all Canada.

A Moral Force.

Boston Transcript.

"President Roosevelt has done more to avert moral ruin of this country than all the preachers in the pulpits of America for the last 50 years," was the declaration made by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise from the platform of Ford Hall last night. This dictum came in reply to a question from the audience as to whether the president had done right in accepting $250,000 as a campaign fund.

"I do not believe," continued Rabbi Wise, "that the president is the sum of all human excellence, but that his influence, whatever his detractors may say to the contrary, has been for the morals of the nation, and it is my sacred, solemn conviction that history will declare that he rendered the greatest service to the nation in so far as he held up to a nation—intoxicated, drunken, sodden with prosperity—an unalterable, inflexible moral standard."

An Estacada resident tells the Progress that sleighs were used last week to attend a funeral for the first time in that neighborhood since 1873.