EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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To bring a child to the realization of the divine nature within him seems to me to be the highest duty of parents and educators.—Channing.

GOVERNOR HUGHES

AN INTERESTING utterance by Governor Hughes of New York appears elsewhere on this page. It is the defense of the theory of a primary law and is one of the best that has appeared. He shows how under conventions one man or a few dictate nominations. The candidate is not the representative of the people or the party, but the chosen representative of an inner clique. The people have literally no choice in his selection. The county or district boss and bossiets determine who shall be the delegates and at the conventions, county and state, by trade and barter, these bosses name the candidates. This, Governor Hughes says, is not representative government, but a subversion of representative government. We do not, he continues, select delegates to elect our governors, assemblymen or other officers for us, then why should we select delegates to nominate them for us? If the people are competent to elect officials why are they not equally competent to nominate them?

Governor Hughes' logic is unanswerable. It is the pronouncement of a great constitutional lawyer. It is an analysis of known facts by a statesman who has given battle to the politicians and put them to rout. It is a statement that one reads with infinite refreshment after reading over and over again the reiterated and rehashed contentions against the primary system. If the people can elect a governor, why are they not competent to nominate him? It is a ringing query to which there is no answer. Why should they select delegates to do the nominating for them, especially when an inner clique does the real nominating, is another unanswerable proposition. And carrying Governor Hughes' logic to its ultimate, why, if they are competent to elect governor, are they not competent to elect United States senator? Why should they elect a few men to elect senator for them?

INDUSTRIAL OREGON ENRICHED

THE WORLD moves. Nations rise and fall. The cave man went. The ox cart gave way to the palatial train. The pony express vanished to usher in the wireless telegraph. The galley boat gave place to the six decked ocean liner. The process of change is always on. All life is change and all systems change. The appliance of yesterday goes into the scrap pile today. The device of today will be outworn tomorrow. The world is a vast spawning ground of evolution. Burbank invades the plant world and evolves a higher type. The inexorable rule is that nothing is perfect. It is the rule that has to be accepted because it is the key to success. To hold to the ancient model is assurance of failure. The Chinaman plows with a sharpened stick and his day's wage is a few cents. His standard of life is as wretched as his wage.

In the assembly hall of the Portland Commercial club last Thursday a handful of men planned for better breeds of livestock in the Oregon country. It was a meeting in harmony with the age. It was an acceptance of the rule that spells success. The long horned cow won't do. The long legged steer is a bygone. The blood of each must be bred out of our cattle. So must go the blood of the razor backed hog. The cayuse horse came on the scene and lived his allotted time of usefulness. A new age is on, and it is the age of the full, round form, the long, curved lines of beauty, the short limb and the great symmetrical carcass. It is an age of animal life developed to its highest type. It is an age in which the ancient type is as impossible as the ox cart and the galley boat. It is an age in which the farmer with cattle of the ancient model is as helpless as a railroad baron with an ox yoke. It is an age in which a stockman with a sharp backed hog is as helpless as the world's commerce dependent for movement on an ancient Mississippi flatboat. It is the age of the packing house and the twentieth century animal. The stock grower without the improved type is an industrial derelict, and if the progress of the world since the time of primitive man means anything failure will be his portion. The world moves, methods change and industry must keep step with every changing order. The propaganda of the Pure Bred Livestock association is a message worth while. It shows the short cut to industrial Oregon enriched.

THE CALL OF LIFE

ATTENTION IS challenged by a resolution adopted at Thursday's meeting of the Oregon Pure Bred Livestock association. The resolution requests Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson to detail an expert from the United States department of animal husbandry to conduct tuberculin tests in Oregon. The purpose of the association is to prepare the way for a protection of the animal industry in Oregon against tuberculosis. It is a step of vital importance, and the attitude of the association is to be applauded.

So far as known no organized effort is manifest in this state in resisting the spread of tuberculosis among domestic animals. There is an inadequate state law, but there is no evidence of its enforcement. It is a matter that ought by all means to have been investigated by the legislature. That body is contributing a large sum for a tuberculosis sanatorium, which is an advisable step. It is apparently to spend a considerable sum for inspection of dairies, which may help some. All this is in the direction of human safety. Yet underlying it all is the diseased domestic animal with its power of communicating its malady to the human family. Notable among these animals is the tuberculous cow. Announcements by the bureau of animal husbandry at Washington are to the effect that whole herds are sometimes affected, and that without any surmise as to their condition by the owner. In their feces and from the mouth they expel tubercle germs, the germs find their way into the milk and thence pass into the human system. A bulletin issued by the bureau discloses that of 26 cows in one lot and six in another taken from herds that were supplying milk to the city of Washington, 10 in the first lot and all in the other were found to be expelling tubercle germs. Guinea pigs inoculated with germs from their milk died of typical generalized tuberculosis. Four calves fed from the milk of one of them, 30 days, 7 days, 3 days and 1 day, respectively, all contracted generalized tuberculosis. The condition shows how important is the resolution adopted by the Oregon Livestock association Thursday.

The latest bulletin issued by the bureau of animal husbandry at Washington contains information that further emphasizes the importance of this resolution. It recounts experiments to determine the presence and the survival of tubercle germs in butter. It says that recently "26 samples of milk were taken directly from the Washington supply, each from a different dealer, and tested at the experiment station by guinea pig inoculation, and two or 7.7 per cent were pronounced generalized, fatal tuberculosis." Butter made from the cream produced the same results. From butter so made 50 guinea pigs were inoculated, the inoculations being made at different dates in order to determine how long the tubercle germs in the butter would remain virulent. Five of the pigs died prematurely and of other diseases. One was killed, but was found to be affected with generalized tuberculosis and would have succumbed to the disease in 10 days. Of the remaining 44 all died with generalized tuberculosis, uncomplicated with other affections, due to virulent tubercle bacilli contained in the butter. Two were inoculated with butter 99 days old and with but half a dose each, due to exhaustion of the butter supply. Both died, one surviving 75 days and the other 82. The others were inoculated with butter from 1 to 99 days old, and the shortest period until death was six days and the longest 124 days.

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL FARM PARK

ON NEXT Friday, February 12, the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, President Roosevelt will lay the cornerstone of the Memorial building at the Lincoln Birthplace farm, in Kentucky, and it will then be dedicated to the American people in perpetuity as a national memorial park. Three years ago the little farm and cabin where Lincoln was born were rescued from the hands of speculators and turned over to the Lincoln Farm association, composed of citizens of all the states, and whose trustees are 26 prominent men. The funds for the Memorial building and development work have been raised by voluntary contributions of 25 cents or more from over 85,000 people, and now amount to more than $100,000. About $50,000 more is needed, which it is expected will be contributed on or before February 12. Every contributor receives a handsome certificate of honorary membership in the association without any liability to further contribution, and each name is entered in the permanent record to be kept forever in the building. All contributors of 25 cents or more are treated equally in this respect, and the amount is never made public. All contributions should be sent at once to the treasurer of the association, Clarence H. Mackay, 74 Broadway, New York city.

This is a worthy and patriotic movement, and we doubt not that many readers of The Journal will feel like paying a tribute to the memory and services of Lincoln by sending a contribution to help make out the needed amount. While larger amounts than 25 cents will be welcome, that amount will help, and will show the desirable spirit; and the more contributors there are the more national the movement will be.

MONEY SPENT ON PORTS

LONDON HAS been the greatest port in the world for some 200 years. Its tonnage entered in 1907 was 11,166,357 tons, and it cleared 8,598,979, a total of 19,759,846 tons. The total entered and cleared in Liverpool the same year was 16,665,398 tons. While New York's port trade amounted to $1,709,164,423 London's amounted to $2,430,000,000. But Liverpool, Southampton and Plymouth, in England, and Hamburg, Antwerp and other foreign ports, are gaining on London, chiefly because of expensive improvements to their harbors and the waterways leading thereto. As The Journal recently noted, Antwerp is spending $35,000,000 on docks and $22,500,000 on a canal, and Hamburg has recently spent $75,000,000 on channel and harbor improvements and is spending $6,250,000 more. Old conservative cities like these would not spend these large sums unless it paid to do so. London, seeing what is being done elsewhere, is considering the expenditure of a vast amount of money for like purposes.

In all this there is a lesson for Portland, or any other American city similarly situated. Great ports are not made except in part by nature; in large part they must be made by man. Portland has done much, all that could be expected so far, for itself, but it must do more and keep on doing for some years to come. The federal government should do most of what is needed, but Portland cannot afford to wait on the government to do all it ought to do, but must go on working out its own salvation and making itself, as it can, pre-eminently the most favored port of the north Pacific coast. Its interior situation is an immense advantage, when it shall have a fully adequate channel and harbor, and nothing necessary of effort or expense must be spared to gain and maintain these. With these assured, Portland will become one of the greatest and most notable of the world's ports.

FREAK MARRIAGE

THE MONTANA legislature has passed a bill prohibiting the marriage of white women with men of objectionable race. It is said that there is no accounting for results when a woman's heart is concerned. There have been several visible evidences of the truth of the adage. The Montana law was hurriedly passed because a Montana white maiden had gailey tripped to the altar with a Chinese Lothario. It was but recently that the dispatches were laden with the tears and anguish of another maiden who has been two or three years the wife in a similar marriage. The outcome of such mating is essentially tears. How such relations can be sought is explicable only because of the lavishness of over-fitful hearts. It proceeds from the glamour of a supposed affection that is not and cannot be real. It is part romance, part madness and all folly. It is a weakness or fancy that carried to its logical determination might lead a woman wed a baboon if the latter could be made to understand the plan. It is akin but lesser in degree to the universal haste and lack of consideration in marriage generally, and which, more than all else, makes the marital relation so much a matter of debate and concern.

The law prohibiting miscegenation is well enough in its way, but it ought not to be necessary. The tutelage of a mother and the guidance of a father should be enough to forfend girls against marital madness. These parents, their experience, their wisdom and their abounding love are the anchorage in which all wise girls find a safe mooring. Their advice will spare all from the horrors of miscegenation and from much of the distress of other misalliances.

RISK FALLS ON EMPLOYERS

LATTERLY THE trend of decisions in the federal as well as other courts is in favor of the proposition that employers cannot oblige employes to take dangerous risks and escape liability for damages on the ground that the risk was obvious and known to the employe. The plea of the employers has been in such a case that it was optional with the employe, seeing and apprehending the danger, to quit and seek work elsewhere, and that if he stayed on he assumed all the risk. Judge, now President-elect Taft, in a now leading case, exploded the sophistry or the practical injustice of this reasoning very thoroughly. As a practical matter the employe, as a rule, must stay on and take the risk, or else go idle and fail to support himself and family. He can quit one job, but he may be a long time finding another, and he may not be able to find another at all in his line of work where he is not equally exposed to risk. Hence the courts are now throwing the risk upon the employer, in all cases where he has not taken all reasonable precautions to reduce the employes' risk to the minimum; and much more is the employer liable when he has not complied with a law requiring him to provide certain safeguards. These are manifestly just decisions.

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.

Direct Primary Law.

Portland, Or., Feb. 3.—To the Editor of The Journal—I noticed an article in the Oregonian January 29, entitled "Oregon System Has Few Friends in the New York Legislature." Ever since the nomination of Governor Chamberlain to the United States senate by the direct primary laws of Oregon, we have seen nothing but unfair criticism and an attempt to mislead the people of the United States against a direct primary law through the agency of certain papers all over the country and why? Is it because the press is allied with corporate interests as a rule? When we look into the past with an unbiased mind, we must admit that many United States senators have been sent to Washington by corporate influence brought to bear on a state legislature, just as we see it today in Wisconsin. I will ask, would it be necessary for the choice of the voters of a state to spend $106,000 to get into the United States senate to get a salary of $5000 and do justice to the people? I am inclined to say no! And when we read of the actions of Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Stephenson of Wisconsin fighting with the lavish use of money which is brought out from some source, we are tempted to think that it is in some selfish personal interest. Why should Wisconsin be so at variance with the case of Oregon in electing her choice under a direct primary? Mr. Chamberlain won with hands, feet and tongue tied while his opponent was straining every nerve to defeat him, and no doubt would have spent money had it not been for fear of the secret service men who were on hand to watch one McHarg of Chicago. It is this element and not the rank and file of good Republicans who are delaying the election of the choice of the people of Wisconsin and condemning the direct primary law.

But corporate interests are never caught sleeping, but prefer the old machine legislature. As many of us know, there are many men who are anxious to go to the United States senate for personal interests as well as corporate interests. And in this way through the influence of few special interests, can perpetuate a Republican United States senate. It is these concessions which have awakened the people to demand a direct primary law, because it would eventually reduce the influence of corporation senators and give the people a purer representation.

Mr. Barnes Jr., in his newspaper, the Albany Evening Journal—and he rules Albany county with a rod of iron—says:

"The result of the direct primary will be to demoralize the interest of the party managers in proper administration."

Again he claims it is contrary to Republican doctrine and has a tendency to destroy the principles of representative government. I will say to Mr. Barnes that this direct primary was put to a test in Oregon and advocated by Mr. Fulton a few years ago during the Mitchell-Simon contest for the purpose of electing Mitchell as the choice, both being Republicans and was no doubt intended in the future to keep a Democrat from being elected in an overwhelming Republican state. I presume this is the objection Mr. Barnes finds to a direct primary as it bars all senators who are representative of corporate ifterests.

The Republicans of Oregon and elsewhere are confronted with a question not very friendly to their system of representation in the United States senate. And it is a fact that in all long drawn out contests for the electing of a United States senator by the legislature a corporation man has always won out. Hence the people have grown tired of corporate legislation and have ceased to trust the legislature any longer for better conditions and are determined to oust all corporate senators. Under the direct primary law this would be avoided and the will of the public be obeyed. It would give us a government of equal rights to all and special privileges to none.

CHARLES D. HEIRRY.
Esmond hotel.

No Protest!

To the Editor of The Journal—Messenger Butler was tardy in reaching Washington, but Messenger McHarg got there on time. Unconfirmed rumor says, however, that when the latter turned over his package of pseudo-protests to Chairman Hitchcock Mr. H. called them "green goods," saying, "Where is your protest? These stereotyped statements of your six recalcitrants are not protests. They say they vote 'under protest,' but they voted for Chamberlain straight, and made no protest against their votes being so counted, nor did they dissent from the formal declaration of his election in the joint convention. The constitution of Oregon provides, Art. 4, Sec. 26, 'Any member of either house shall have the right to protest and have his protest with his reasons for dissent entered on the journal.' This is the only kind of protest we cared for. What you have are not protests, but only confessions on the part of these 'snivellers' that they took Statement No. 1 but didn't know it was loaded." READER.

As Jesus Lived.

White Salmon, Wash., Jan. 30.—To the Editor of The Journal—The reform that Dr. Brougher and other ministers of Portland are making, in trying to live as Christ lived, is highly commendable. Just what rules or mode they will employ is not known to me, but according to my definition of "live as Christ lived," there are men and women now living "as Christ lived," and the conditions now are quite as bad as they were in Christ's time. We read about Ralph B. Fisher being shot down by an assassin, just as Christ was, for the sole reason that he was standing up for the right, Fisher was defending a great principle, purging the profession of unscrupulous lawyers.

If these same preachers would effect a similar organization, they could call it "the Ministers' Pulpit association." They would have started on the right road to "living as Christ lived."

Again we find Mr. Heney of San Francisco standing up for "the right," in the face of jeers, mockery and the assassin. He is defending a great principle.

Also we find Dr. Wiley of Washington, D. C., in the fight for a pure food law. "Standing up for the right"; defending a great principle in the face of the danger of being dismissed from his high office through the pressure brought to bear by the unscrupulous men's millions, made by adulterating food and slowly poisoning the helpless public. Yet we hear Dr. Wiley's answer, "You can dismiss me, but as long as I am in this office I intend to stand up for right and the people."

Fisher, Heney and Dr. Wiley stood up alone. These men "lived as Christ lived."

And again we find the "editorial page of the Oregon Journal" standing up for the right, and leading in the great reforms of the leading progressive state of the whole union. Oregon is a wonderful country with a wonderful people.

A. S. GREGG.

Oregon for Him.

Loveland, Colo., Jan. 31.—To the Editor of The Journal—Through the courtesy of the Portland Commercial club I have before me a copy of your New Year's edition and I want to say that it's a hummer and your people should be proud of it. As I have been in the poultry business for 15 years I naturally looked for this industry and note what you say as to the possibilities of a practical poultry man. I have long looked upon Oregon as a fine place for the poultry business and especially egg farming and to this end I would like to correspond with some reliable party who contemplates such a proposition on a large and paying basis. I can furnish references.

J. B. COYKENDALL,
Editor poultry department Ranch and Range.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Only a short month more of Roosevelt.

• •

The legislature's time is two-third's gone.

• •

Some lobbying is legitimate and useful.

• •

Now some important matters will come to the front.

• •

Too much time wasted on comparative trifles, as usual.

• •

Before censuring a person, put yourself in his or her place.

• •

Uncle Ike Stephenson and Hopkins are still on the ragged edge.

• •

Can't Japan learn that it will not be allowed to run this country?

• •

One member of the state senate should always be able to remember to sin not.

• •

It is the things that will make a greater and better Oregon that are important.

• •

George Bernard Shaw says he is dead. But nobody believes any good news he may tell.

• •

Nobody ever thought it necessary to lecture on "How to be happy, though unmarried."

• •

Republican members of the House are all Cannon men now. But the old man has a memory.

• •

A man wants to walk from Portland, Or., to Portland, Maine. Let him start, the sooner the better.

• •

Loeb is to get a far better job than a cabinet secretaryship. But won't Father Knickerbocker scowl?

• •

The support of a measure by Grove L. Johnson of Sacramento is strong evidence that it ought to be defeated.

• •

Halley's comet will appear next month. But it will try in vain to take Roosevelt's place in the public eye.

• •

The railroad and some other corporations are fighting the movement for free locks at Oregon City—of course.

• •

When and how did the president get authority to set aside the anti-trust law for the benefit of J. P. Morgan et al?

• •

Salem Journal: No, Maudie, that Gatun dam the newspapers speak of has no reference to any remark of Billy Gaten's.

• •

Greater expenditures are inevitable; then it is a duty to provide more sources of revenue. It can be done. Why isn't it done?

• •

No, the Fulton bill will not pass; there isn't time. Congress can find no time to do anything that will be beneficial to the people.

• •

If the old system could be revived, the Portland constable would now be a big sub-boss and wield a large power in governing the people.

• •

Salem Statesmen: Probably if you were in the legislature you would not be any better. You might do much worse. There are a good many things to consider.

• •

Memphis has a "Jack the Clipper," who snips off the edges of Merry Widow hats and the big feathers on them. All policemen look the other way, please.

• •

Coquelin of France has followed Irving of England and Mansfield of America off the earthly stage, and there are apparently no others to fill their places. Are there to be no more great actors? Or is the world less easily pleased with histrionic art than formerly?

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

A Woodburn hen produced an egg measuring 6x8¼ inches.

• •

A new orchard of 40 acres, 3000 trees, is being set out near Echo.

• •

Of course Astoria is healthy—plenty of water, sea breezes and fish.

• •

People around The Dalles are complaining of a scarcity of fruit trees to plant.

• •

Everybody's hair became sandy the other day in Pendleton, on account of a dust storm.

• •

Strawberries and roses with snow, sleet and rain on the side, says an Acme, Siuslaw correspondent.

• •

A Captain Eli is lecturing on whales in eastern Oregon. He is not a relative of Eli Perkins, but of course tells some big fish stories.

• •

Around Cresswell daffodils and other spring flowers are now through the ground and budded where two weeks ago the snow was six inches deep.

• •

The Albany Democrat says that a lady who advertised for a girl had one before 4 o'clock, less than half an hour after the paper was out. Domestic or baby?

• •

It was just a plain little tabby, but it took the combined efforts of the conductor, the brakeman and the news agent, aided by Chief of Police Walden to put her in the baggage car, relates the La Grande Observer.

• •

J. C. Feathers of Woodburn is the possessor of an old relic in Bibles. It is a copy of Poole's Annotations of Wicliff's translation, and was published in London, England, in 1700. It is in a good state of preservation and is very valuable.

• •

Before The Dalles increases in population to any appreciable extent more dwellings will have to be erected, says the Optimist. There is not a vacant house in the city and people are locating in other towns because suitable houses are unavailable.

• •

The progress being made in connection with the building of the proposed electric road to Seaside is most encouraging and indicates that without doubt construction on the road will be under way within a very few weeks, says the Astoria Budget.

• •

Central Point Herald: Rogue river fishing is one of the great attractions of this section of the state. Anglers of national reputation have traveled across the continent to enjoy the fine trout and steelhead fly fishing in that stream and which they all declare to be among the very finest in the United States.

• •

Arlington Record: Pasco merchants estimate that they saved $346 on their freight bills on the load delivered to them by the steamer Inland Empire when she made her trial trip recently. Naturally Pasco people are anxious for the Open River Transportation company to make regular trips to their town, and this the company will soon be prepared to do.

• •

Two immensely large cougars were killed on Rock Creek, opposite Niagara on the C. & E. line last week, says the Albany Herald. They were part of a band of six that were seen in that vicinity. One man narrowly escaped death as he passed under a limb in which a cougar already crouched for a spring, when another man following shot it.

• •

Two women ate a meal in a Pendleton restaurant and on departing for a train nearly due left a purse containing several hundred dollars in money and jewelry. It was not noticed for a little while, but when it was, the proprietor rushed away to the depot and gave it to the woman to whom it belonged, and she did not even thank him for it nor pay him any notice whatever after grabbing it out of his hand, and now he wishes he had not been so obliging.

"CONVENTIONS ARE SHAMS"

So Governor Hughes Wants Direct Primaries

From the New York Sun.

Almost invariably we elect to office candidates who are nominated by parties. So that perversion of party machinery is a serious menace to the public at large. And freedom of party action is essential to popular government.

This is so in districts where the vote is fairly close. For if nominations are dictated on each side by one man or by a few men who control party machinery the people have no proper chance to select their representatives.

But in a very large number of districts in the state the election of senators and of assemblymen and of local officers is a one sided affair. Except where there is a political upheaval a nomination by the dominant party is equivalent to an election.

Whatever may be said in theory, the intervention of delegates to choose the nominees is for the most part a sham. Whetner the delegates are ignored, as is so largely the case, or are the subject of barter and traffic, as is too frequently the case, particularly in our smaller communities, it comes to the same thing. They represent a form which is useful in the main only to delude the people and constitutes a travesty of representation. If it were proposed to confer by law upon those who to so large an extent dictate the nomination of candidates the power that they actually exercise, the state would rise in indignant protest.

I do not desire either of the parties to be considered in this matter to the exclusion of the others. If some of my friends are not persuaded with regard to the conditions in their own party let them consider the machinery and methods of their opponents. If we are to have wholesome government we must have wholesome party management and true party representation, and we shall be greatly aided in securing it in the case of any one party by the efforts that we make to secure it in all parties.

I have urged that party candidates should be nominated directly by the voters of the party. That is, that the party members should decide directly who should stand for office as the representative. This is called the system of direct nominations.

The system of direct nominations is criticised by some on the ground that it is inconsistent with representative government. Some who advance this argument must believe the charge that I am lacking a sense of humor; for the valiant defense of representative government by those who in practice seek to nullify it and treat it with contempt is one of the most absurd spectacles to which we have even been treated in the domain of political argument.

Representative government is government through representatives. We choose officers to do for us what we cannot do, or do not think it wise to undertake ourselves. For example, we cannot well make our laws directly and so we elect legislators to make them for us. We cannot as a people at large execute the laws and so we select executive officers to represent us in their execution. We cannot in an assembly of the people decide judicial controversies and so we choose judges to represent us in deciding cases.

But we do not elect men to choose our governors and our mayors and the members of the legislature for us. We elect our governor, our mayors and our legislators directly. They are chosen by direct vote of the people. These officers are none the less representative and we have none the less representative government because we choose them by direct vote. If any one were now to propose that we should elect a body of men to choose our governor for us we would laugh at him. If any one saw fit to argue that this was necessary to the maintenance of representative government we would think the argument ridiculous.

Now if we elect a governor by direct vote of the people how is it a subversion of representative government for the enrolled voters of a party to choose their candidate for governor by direct vote? If we elect an assemblyman in an assembly district by direct vote of the voters in that district, why should not the members of the party in that district decide directly who should be their representative as a candidate for the assembly? Is the one any the less representative government than the other?

The Bribers and Bribed

From the Philadelphia North American.

The exposure of the twin corruption of business and politics in Pittsburg would not have been half so extensive and far reaching had not six special bank examiners been hurried to that city by President Roosevelt as soon as he had been informed of what might be disclosed by prompt and simultaneous investigation.

We do not know whether the report is true that he took that action with this proviso:

"Be sure to get the bribe givers as well as the bribe takers. One can't exist without the other."

But if those were his words he spoke a truth which must be the basis of every similar investigation if we ever are to have in this country a purification of our civic affairs.

There has been too much cursing of the grafting politician, as if he were the chief if not the sole offender. There has been tolerance of and sympathy with the respectable banker, manufacturer, merchant and corporation official who submitted to the politicians' blackmail when the favor of a city deposit, a switch to a factory, a contract for supplies or a new or amended franchise was wanted.

We have no pity for the footpad in office. But he is not the worst grafter. Usually he has entered a false atmosphere when a youth working in his ward. He has heard only the code that "everybody grafts." His idol and his model has been the boss who has fattened upon the fear and avarice of the rich, "respectable" business man. He thieves because that is all that he has been taught to do. He is a criminal. But there are others far worse than he.

These are the solid, substantial, church going, eminently respectable bribers of the political "blackmailers." They cry out against such extortion. But the corruption is made possible only by their cowardice or their greed.

If their requests were not for improper or illegal privilege, they had only to make public the demands upon them and appeal to the people to put an end to the grafting and the grafters.

But in every city it is as it has been in San Francisco. Heney was praised to the skies as long as he attacked the petty recipients of bribes. But when he sought "the men higher up," the greater, the "respectable" criminals—the corporation heads and their kinds—he was ostracized and assailed and finally resort was made to attempted assassination.

And it was because the investigation of the land and timber and postal thievery did not halt at the minor offenders that the efficiency of the secret service was crippled as it was by congress last spring.

It would be better if every Pittsburg offender received full measure of punishment. But if the choice lay between the escape of the boodling councilmen and that of the "respectable" gentlemen who bought them, we should prefer to see the bribed men go free.

A Plot That Failed.

From the Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat.

Scarcely too much credit can be given the Oregon Journal of Portland for its part in balking the conspiracy to defeat Governor Chamberlain for the senatorship. It was the one powerful newspaper influence of the state which stood out against the Fulton plan for the cheating of the voters out of their declared choice.

Ever since the election last June a conspiracy had been on foot to induce Statement No. 1 members of the legislature to violate their solemn pledge. This conspiracy went so far as to include an effort to drag President Roosevelt and Mr. Taft into the fight against Mr. Chamberlain. But both the president and the president-elect, to their credit be it said, refused to have anything to do with the scandalous job and at the last moment the plot went to pieces. The conspiracy failed.

It might have succeeded even without the aid or sympathy of Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Taft but for the appearance on the scene at the capital of large and determined delegations from the various districts represented by Statement No. 1 men. These delegations made no concealment of their purpose to defeat any legislator for reelection who should violate his sacred pledge. They were in deadly earnest and the Statement No. 1 men realized that to commit an act of treachery would be to destroy themselves politically. They therefore stood solidly by the obligation they had assumed. They refused to yield to the tempter. And it thus befalls that Governor Chamberlain has been elected to the senate from the Republican state of Oregon.

Politics Vs. Business.

From the Astorian (Rep.)

The American people, Oregonians included, are wearying of politics; especially the politics merged with business, and hardly decipherable from that element. We are getting to a pass where some observance of the law might figure very happily as against the illimitable evasion and circumscription of the law, which seems to actuate every man of affairs in every notable community in the land. Never was there a time when the codes of the country were in so poor a plight as they are now; and never so vast a movement for the devisement of laws that shall adapt themselves to the supreme greed of the day.

There is something hateful in the situation as it presents itself to the earnest, thinking man of the hour; the man who respects the law and would see it exalted. We believe that politics is at the bottom of the situation and would be glad to see another predicate, that of actual business, supercede it.

And we shall be more than grateful if the Oregon legislature shall, for the once, forget its penchant for politics, and hazard a cast at genuine business, just to demonstrate that it is there for some other reason than an inspired desire to "fix themselves" or their "friends."

This Date in History.

1777—Great Britain granted letters of marque and reprisal against the United States.

1796—The state of Vermont adopted a constitution.

1801—Alexander Means, fourth president of Emory college, born in Statesville, N. C. Died June 5, 1883.

1805—Pennsylvania legislature decided to remove the seat of the state government to Harrisburg.

1825—Rt. Rev. John Connolly, Roman Catholic bishop of New York, died. Born in 1750.

1864—General Sherman with his army set out from Vicksburg, moving south.

1877—Rear Admiral James Alden, U. S. N., died in San Francisco. Born in Portland, Me., March 31, 1810.

1886—Labor riots in Vancouver, Wash.

1895—President Cleveland decided the boundary dispute between Argentine and Brazil in favor of Brazil.

To perfect the process of the Oxford paper used for Bibles required 25 years of study work. The syndicate owning the formula values it at over $1,000,000.