

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

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Rest satisfied with doing well, and leave others to talk of you as they please.—Pythagoras.

AS TO EMERGENCIES

Nobody objected to relief of the supreme court. The people did not oppose it. They want guilty criminals to be swiftly brought to justice. They want no respite of a year or two for guilty murderers through an appeal to the supreme court, which the court, because of congested business, cannot reach except after long delay.

When an armed man shoots an unarmed man down in cold blood, firing on him as is sometimes the case, from behind, there should be celerity for his case in the supreme court. The months that must intervene, the disappearance of prosecuting witnesses, the weakening of evidence that results and the miscarriage of justice that comes from long postponements and delays are a notorious encouragement of crime and criminals.

Whenever it comes to be the rule that a cold blooded murder is followed swiftly by prompt conviction in the circuit court, a swift confirmation in the supreme court and an equally prompt application of the gallows, murders will decrease and murderers become less in evidence.

Then law will be respected and its majesty be supreme. To hold that the court of last resort should continue a year or more behind with its business, is in truth and in fact offering a premium for murder, in the delay and in the hope of escape from retribution which it affords.

The possibility of such delay constitutes a crisis that justifies the emergency clause that appeared in the bill creating the two additional justices.

What the people rejected in the June voting was a proposed revolution in the judicial system. The measure submitted to them then proposed to transfer probate business from the county to the circuit courts. It proposed that the legislature should have at all times over the supreme justices a power to make the number 20 if the legislators desired, a grant that the electorate did not relish.

It opened the way for many and great changes, changes unspecified, full of mystery, making it a vote in the dark, a step the electorate very wisely refused to take.

The emergency clause in the supreme court relief bill was not a move to ward off the referendum, but a plan to get the supreme court in position to pass on the cases of murderers and other criminals who are seeking escape from their crimes through postponements, subterfuges and delays.

THE PURIFIED PLAY THERE IS probably much truth in the contention of the New York manager that the public fixes the standard of the plays. "Let the word be passed around that a play is broad or indelicate," he says, "and the town runs wild about it, while some play of merit, bright and entertaining, is laid on the shelf."

THAT DISTRESS SIGNAL

OREGON is not going to engage in any activity that will bankrupt the state. No state railroad has been built yet. None will be built until the best thought in the state is convinced of its advisability. Even were the constitutional authority provided it might never be built. For the present, therefore, the elevated tower can safely haul down its flag of distress. In fact, the sages up there ought to calm themselves, for there is really no danger. The business men that went from the chamber of commerce to Salem are not financially dizzy. They are not going to plunge the state into dire bankruptcy, plunder the treasury, mortgage the homes, drive out the women and starve the children. From the standpoint of constructive financial brains every one of them is about the opposite of bankruptcy and starveling's tears. In safety, sanity and general conservatism both they and the people of Oregon universally have a splendid record, and the shrieks that proceed from the tall castle in the air are really unnecessary. If the fright proceeds from undue nervousness, catnip tea and mustard poultices are invaluable remedies. They would certainly fit this case in which the trouble is largely superficial.

As to state owned railroads, that is not at this time an issue. The issue is merely one of whether or not, after years of discrimination and oppression, Oregon people shall put themselves in position for defense. Shall they go on paying tribute to Mr. Harriman with no reciprocal and cooperative effort in return, or shall they put themselves in position to get something back for the good millions of money they annually pay out? This is all that is involved in the issue. When the building of railroads is actually contemplated it will then be time to debate the question of bankruptcies, troubles and tears.

Meantime, it may be remarked that the cases of state owned railroads with empty seats. We may desire an elevated drama, an intellectual drama, a purified drama, but we cannot get it at the price of bankruptcy for the manager. The box office, is his sheet anchor and the public controls the box office. We could lift the stage to the standard of its golden days if we would, but so far it has not pleased us to do so. In the drama, as in all things else, we get exactly what we pay for, and it is always ourselves that make the selection.

ROOSEVELT'S SPEECH

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S Lincoln memorial day address yesterday was worthy to be classed among the notable orations of the country and the age. He pictured Lincoln very truly and in felicitous language. All of it is worth re-reading, and much of it worth memorizing. Here are a few expressions:

Timid and lukewarm people were always denouncing him because he was too extreme; but as a matter of fact he never went to extremes, he worked step by step. He had continually to check those who wished to go forward too fast, at the very time that he overrode the opposition of those who wished not to go forward at all. His goal was never dim before his vision; but he picked his way cautiously, without either halt or hurry, as he strode toward it, through such a morass of difficulty that no man of less courage would have attempted it, while it would surely have overwhelmed any man of judgment less serene. Yet perhaps the most wonderful thing of all, and from the standpoint of the American of today and of the future, the most vitally important, was the extraordinary way in which Lincoln could fight valiantly against what he deemed wrong and yet preserve undiminished his love and respect for the brother from whom he differed.

THE CALL OF THE PEOPLE

THE MAYOR of Los Angeles is about to be required to run the gauntlet of an election that will determine whether or not he must surrender his office. The proceeding is under the recall and the 25 per centum of voters required to submit the case to the electorate has been secured. The conduct of his office in a manner unsatisfactory to the signers of the recall petitions is the occasion for the action. It is the second instance in which the recall has been invoked in Los Angeles. A former case occurred in 1904, when a councilman of that city was made the subject of a popular vote as to whether or not he should be removed. As a result of the vote he was dismissed and his successor elected. The instance was the first in which an American officeholder has been required to surrender his office by a mandate of the people.

The action at Los Angeles is in harmony with the trend of the time. Men everywhere are learning that those elected to public position, whether in a legislative or executive capacity, cannot always be depended upon to do their full duty. There have been so many betrayals of constituents that the people are more and more reserving to themselves

Letters From the People

Letters to The Journal should be written on one side of the paper only, and should be addressed to the editor and address of the writer. The Journal will not be held responsible for the views or statements of correspondents. Letters should be made as brief as possible. Those who wish to have their words in length may at the discretion of the editor, be cut down to that limit.

Oregon's Need of Topographic Surveys.

Portland, Or., Feb. 11.—To the Editor of The Journal—I wish The Journal would print a few words in behalf of H. R. 147, introduced by Representative Rusk, which passed the house yesterday, and will soon be in the hands of the senate. This bill appropriates \$15,000 a year to be used with a like sum furnished by the United States in making topographic maps of Oregon.

This work is carried on by the United States geologist survey, and the maps produced by that organization are among the finest in the world, and are useful alike to farmers, railroads, engineers, surveyors, irrigators, public officials, and to all persons who have any traveling to do or who are interested in land of any sort. The maps show all houses, roads and general improvements, together with a detailed representation of the character of the surface of the country from a topographic standpoint. They are sold to the public when completed at three cents a sheet, and they have only to be ordered to be procured.

The government is carrying on this work for many years, but only 17 per cent of Oregon is surveyed. There are only six states in the union with such a large percentage of unsurveyed area. States like California, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico are nearly half surveyed, and Oregon only one sixth. The writer believes we can stand an increase. There are only 16 sheets finished for Oregon by the United States geologist survey, and the completion of about six sheets annually. We certainly need them.

There are large areas of Oregon that are practically unsurveyed, and which are a menace to the security. Only a person who has tried to secure good maps of parts of the state can realize what a nuisance it is to finally have to fall back on railroad maps, or bid-eyes, or the like, and what a nuisance it is to have many sections right here in the Willamette valley of which it is impossible to get good maps that can be relied upon.

Even since the geological survey was started in 1878, and spending a sum equal to the state appropriations, many states have taken advantage of the law and have appropriated large sums. States like California, Mississippi, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania have appropriated from \$10,000 to \$28,000 a year, and Oregon ought to be able to stand a \$15,000 appropriation. Furthermore the money is mostly spent at home, and the appropriation means that the government will get the benefit of the work. Let us urge the senate to pass the bill as the house has done.

Believes in the Sunday Law.

Waldport, Lincoln County, Or., Feb. 10.—To the Editor of The Journal—I saw an article February 4, of one T. P. Willis attacking the Northwest Sabbath association for presenting a petition to the legislature for a Sunday law and crying "unconstitutional"; but the question is: Are we in the same condition today as our forefathers were? Did the seventh day, or the violation of the Christian Sabbath legislation, or the violation of the existing laws shall the minority law? Would it not be better for the children of God to join together and have one day sanctified or set apart for the worship of God, than to have the existing laws which shall the minority law? Now, he says he is a Seventh Day Adventist and keeps Saturday as the Sabbath, and cannot keep the first day, commonly called Sunday, without violating the Sabbath commandment. Will he please tell me where he gets his command for keeping the Sabbath day on the seventh day—is it from the creation Sabbath or is it from the commandment of Moses? Then it is his duty to keep the seventh day Sabbath, and he is not to keep the first day, or the first of the Sabbaths, with all his \$100 boasting. Now I ask him to please tell me by what chapter and verse in the gospels the Christian is commanded to keep the seventh day Sabbath.

Was Obeying Her Instructions.

A reader of The Journal sends the following anecdote: Mary, a servant girl who had never before been in the city, was sent by her mistress one afternoon to get some tickets for the evening performance. "I want you to get me two seats in the center of the balcony," said Mrs. Brown on handing the money to the girl.

This Date in History.

1760—Samuel W. Dana, who served 11 years as United States senator from Connecticut, born in Wallingford, Conn. Died in Middletown, July 21, 1830. 1776—Americans defeated the British at battle of Moore's Creek, N. C. 1805—University of North Carolina opened. 1805—David Dudley Field, eminent lawyer, born in Haddam, Conn. Died in New York city, April 18, 1884. 1825—The American Temperance society founded in Boston. 1851—Act establishing the University of Minnesota passed. 1862—Assault on Fort Donelson, Tenn., began. 1862—The lives lost by the falling of a bridge into the James river, Richmond, Va. 1868—Alexander H. Stephens delivered the "Cornerstone" speech at the 150th anniversary celebration of the settlement of Georgia. 1890—Oklahoma territorial bill passed by the senate.

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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

A scalp bounty for hop market bears is suggested. Planting gardens next week might be slightly premature. It is well that the hens don't take a lay-off during Lent. No. Claude, the single tax doesn't mean taxing bachelors. "Three normal schools go," says the Salem Statesman. It means they don't go. But most people will still believe that it is more blessed to receive than to give. A reform of the jury system would help a good deal to expedite court business. Apparently the legislature will have several good and important laws to its credit. Taft should be in favor of a nine-foot shaft—law—in width as well as in length. Oregon will also have a birthday returns, and is sure of "many happy returns."

Now Taft is also capturing Louisiana, or at least the historic old city of New Orleans. Roosevelt's oration on Lincoln ought to have been one of his best speeches, and it was. If anybody turns a flashlight on the powder trust it is expected that Cannon will explode. The country seems inclined to stand by Dr. Wiley and believe he has on the whole done notably good work. Do nothing about it—the lack of railroads—says the Oregonian. Do-nothing has held Oregon busy too long.

Senator Tillman admitted one regrettable incident in his career but it wasn't the Oregon land-grabbing incident. A New Jersey jury decided that \$6 a week was enough for a woman to live on. But dare they say so at home? A mother displays sublime confidence or reckless daring when she sends her boy to the grocery for eggs these days.

There are so many soul doctors these days that it can get by his eyes saved at bargain rates and in a hundred and one different ways. Whenever some movement for the great development or betterment of Oregon is proposed, the Oregonian always trots out its old stock lions to place alongside the road.

In an eating contest among three New York fat men one consumed 275 oysters, the other ate eight pounds of steak, 12 rolls, 11 cups of coffee and three large pies. Shouldn't this animal be classified as a hog? The Register was the first and so far as we can learn the only paper in the state to advocate a board of pardons by which to curtail the power of the governor in granting pardons.—Eugene Register. Probably other newspapers did not in advocating a board of pardons because none is necessary. A governor may make mistakes, but a man fit for the office is likely to do right as a board of pardons.

The Baker City Herald, a Republican newspaper, says the eastern people who have a very high opinion of Governor Chamberlain's ability and astuteness, and who are his warm friends, it is not Chamberlain's wisdom, but his lack of thickheadedness of some republicans in Oregon. The present legislature is turning on Chamberlain, and every day by passing appropriation and salary bills which gives Chamberlain a chance to use his veto.

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OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Cottage Grove's water system is being expanded. The curious law, it makes Medford wet and Condon dry. Mayor Rodgers of Salem will keep boys out of poolrooms. A canvass of Marshfield indicates a population of nearly 6000 for that town. An Ashland man caught a salmon chat in Bear creek weighing 11 1/2 pounds. The Democrat continues to be rapid. Last evening an Albany lady who advertised for a girl secured one before 4 o'clock. The Portland man who will please take notice—Albany Democrat. Would an equally prompt result be guaranteed in the case of a young man? Enterprise News-Record: From present indications the sugar beet culture will be given a good test in the valley this season. The number of public spirited land owners have offered land and water at a low rental in order to have the test made. Bandon Recorder: Port of Coquille River sounds good to every one living in this valley and the people of Bandon will be glad to take up the proposition, if other towns along the river will assist, and from reports received from other places it would seem that it will not be hard to get them interested in the proposition. Gervais Star: There should be a flintstone, a lawyer, a dentist, a live rustling real estate agent and a harness maker located at Gervais. If one comes along with Gervais farmers pays big, because they have the money. Okwille correspondence of the Albany Herald: It is reported by some of the fruit men that the late freezing weather has played havoc with the orchards, killing many trees and doing damage to the snow line. If so, this damage will prove a great financial loss, as the fruit men are in operation and one of the leading industries of the country. The Portland, Eugene & Eastern Railway company is to build two miles of road in Salem in 60 days. The same company has been three years building the two miles between Eugene and Springfield—and it is not half done yet. Our people will naturally watch the Salem experiment with interest, says the Guard. A real estate firm has just placed on the market a tract adjoining the city of Cove, 675 acres, which has been subdivided into five acre tracts. This is a fruit land, and the famous fruit producing section, and much of the tract, if not all, is subject to irrigation. The water will be possible to be a large number of homes, but will also be of great advantage to the city of Cove. The Albany Democrat points with pride to the following industries in that town: Lumber, saw mills, two large iron works, two creameries, two planing mills, two tanneries, a mill, a shoe house, a tannery, a mill in the valley, two ice factories, and a bottling establishment. A cannery has been built and is in operation. The new preparations are being made for a milk condenser. A furniture factory will soon be doing a large business. Astoria Budget: There are not many gillnetters who have been keeping their nets in the water, and they have had the courage to do so during the recent bad weather have had excellent luck for this time of the year. The Astoria Budget and the Astoria Budget, the finest quality, coming into the cold fresh water of the river from the ocean. For the Astoria Budget and the Astoria Budget, full of oil as when caught on the bar. The demand for them is greater than the supply.

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