THE JOURNAL

—AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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Nature never stands still, nor souls either.
They ever go up or go down.
—Julia C. R. Dorr.

THE REAL ISSUE

THIS IS A TIME when the citizens of Portland should insist on being shown. Three candidates for mayor are a-field and the claim of each is that upon him depends the future welfare of the city. Aldermanic candidates are as numerous as flies around a lump of sugar, and all are avowed apostles of pure government.

It is the habit of candidates to be white-robed exponents of virtue before election. Patriotism and promises have come to be so flamboyant before election and so painfully absent after that campaign professions of purity are of no bankable value in the market places.

The only practical issue in the present campaign from which Portland can realize dividends is a change of government. A transformation to a sane system will do more for Portland than the election of 40 mayors. There is no mayoralty material in sight out of which to make a great Moses. What will best serve Portland now is to elect the mayor who will cut his term shortest by helping to get commission government quickest. The same is true of the councilmen.

If a mayor goes wrong in Portland he can be quickly recalled. But there is no quick recall for our present form of government. The fact that men of mayoralty calibre refuse to be candidates is proof of the inefficiency of the system.

Our usual official family is more menagerie than real government. The outfit is so hedged about with complexities and clap trap that it can play horse all the time with the public and nobody know the difference. The bad actor is lost sight of in the shuffle, and the good one gets no credit. The public merely knows there is something wrong, but cannot locate the blame.

The whole absurdity is revealed by the passing show. The air is thick with fair promises and fetching assurances, but the whole city is full of doubt as to how well the faith will be kept. It is a doubt caused by broken pledges in the past.

The sequel to other campaigns of pledging and covenants was non-performance and special interests whispering into the ears of councilmen while the council was in session. The issue now is a pledge that will be a pledge and a promise for changed form of government that will not be broken after election.

WHY?

TO PROTECT life we restrict the sale of poisons, provide doctors and nurses, endow hospitals and sanatoriums, enact laws, establish courts, institute governments and spend millions for research.

But, to counterbalance it, we sell pistols to the loafer, crook and thug, provide them with all the ammunition they want and give them free rein to go out and kill.

At Pawnee, Nebraska, Monday, James Fielder, armed with a revolver and an unlimited supply of ammunition, shot and killed Mr. and Mrs. McVittie, two of their children, the sheriff of the county, wounded a third child, fired two shots at a fourth and then killed himself. The dead are six. His pretext was that Mr. and Mrs. McVittie objected to his attentions to their daughter.

Every day and all the time, the killing goes on. A slight variation in the details and the number of the dead is the only diversion. Why regulate the sale of the poison and not the gun?

PREPARATION FOR LEGISLATION IN WISCONSIN

WISCONSIN HAS seen to it that the people at large shall have no less advantages in preparing legislative measures than are enjoyed by the "interests." To these ends a special department, called "The Legislative Reference Department of the Free Library Commission" has been established. When it was started it was an absolute novelty. It has developed into a valuable help for constructive legislation and has taken a permanent place in the Wisconsin system.

Although comparatively new, it is stated that not less than 14 states have adopted it in whole or in part.

Its first aim is to inform legislators of what has been done in other states, or other countries, in passing laws on subjects on which legislation is proposed. At very small cost a library of legislation on economic subjects has been got together, which is available at short notice on the request of Wisconsin legislators. Thus on practically all vital subjects precedents are at hand in the shape of actual legislation in other states.

The second purpose is to have all bills to be introduced submitted, in advance, to competent legal draftsmen, who will correct errors in form and substance, and cut out all such "jokers" as are too often discovered when laws, hurriedly passed, come to be put into execution. There is no compulsion on any legislator to take this course. But every committee can, and practically does, submit bills that are independently introduced to the examination of the expert draftsman of the department.

The department is free from party politics, and supplies information to all without distinction.

It has been a matter of evolution not of original design, but owes both origin and development to Charles McCarthy, a graduate student of the University of Wisconsin, who is now not only the head of the legislative reference department, but is also professor of political science in the university. The position of "document clerk" was first created for him, and he served without pay. The year following the legislature appropriated $2500 for the work—McCarthy having refused $5000. The next session the appropriation was $4000, then $15,000. The present governor has recommended an increase to $22,000 to provide for the extended work, the value of which to the state of Wisconsin is universally recognized.

WHAT THE FIGHT IS

"SO LONG AS the public docks commission can defer the date when the big bond issue begins drawing interest the interests of the port will not suffer. * * * In no other port in the world will our dock commissioners find so small a percentage of the traffic by water available for a public dock as at Portland."—Oregonian.

With its back to the future, the Oregonian thus fights progress. Private control of water terminals killed steamboating on the Mississippi. In a case of flour rates between Duluth and Buffalo via the lakes, the interstate commerce commission officially said: "Independent boats that were originally built and fitted to engage in freight business are unable to engage in that business because defendants, the railroads, controlled the terminals and wharves and refused to permit independent boats to load or unload thereat, and refused to receive packages from independent boats."

All over the world, control of the water fronts controls the rates of water transportation. The interstate commerce commission also says that "every city situated upon a seaport or on navigable water connected with the sea which constructs and operates municipal docks, will not only prevent the monopolization of transportation, but will secure the lowest competing rates by water and will at once become the terminal point and receive the lowest rates by rail."

Here is testimony from the highest known authority. Opposition to public ownership of docks is solely in the interest of the railroads, for the railroads by controlling water terminals kill competition by waterways and raise their own rates. If the people of Portland or the people of any city want water competition and want lower freight rates, they must in the language of the interstate commerce commission "construct and operate their own docks."

The fight over public docks in Portland is a fight between the railroads and the public.

CONCILIATION IN TRADE DISPUTES

CONCILIATION IN cases of trade disputes, as distinct from arbitration, has been in operation in Britain since the act for this end was passed in 1896. For several years this method of settlement was rarely called into play. As time went on it has gained ground. The facts regarding it are reported by Consul General John L. Griffiths, from London.

The total number of cases dealt with is 432, but 223 of these have arisen during the last four years. In 1910, 67 cases of trade dispute were handled, 26 involving strikes.

The essential matter of the law is that the board of trade may be appealed to by either employer or employes, or by both, or it may intervene of its own motion in the interest of peace.

In 1910 the board of trade settled labor difficulties affecting coal miners in Northumberland, cotton operations in Lancashire and in Cheshire, and shipbuilders in Scotland. A big dispute in the south of Wales coal field, affecting 13,000 miners is still in process of adjustment.

Of 14 disputes in the building trades, all but one related to wages, and awards took the shape of revised working rules. Of disputes in the boot and shoe industry 10 were settled, and in only one instance was there stoppage of work.

In 1910 also courts of arbitration were called into play in eight instances. Three important disputes, affecting coal miners, dock laborers, and woodyard workers, were so settled.

Also in 1910 there were 44 joint applications to the board of trade made by employes and employers, 13 from workers only, and two from employers.

At the close of 1910 there were 282 conciliation boards in existence in the United Kingdom; of these 265 relate to particular trades, 17 are known as general or district boards.

The efficiency of the board in settling trade disputes is recognized in 96 agreements now in force between employers and employed. There is a clause in all these agreements that if disputes arise and cannot be locally settled application shall be made to the board of trade to appoint an umpire, arbitrator or conciliator.

The conciliator named by the board is usually one of its own special officers. In urgent and important cases the president himself, often a cabinet minister, has acceptably acted.

Blessed are the peacemakers is a beatitude of most general application.

IF LULLED TO SLEEP

FOUR THOUSAND petitioners who sought a referendum of the Oregon-Adams street vacation ordinance are denied a place on the ballot.

Without discussing the legal or official intervention by which this condition appears, The Journal insists that this referendum should have gone to the people. The vacation of the 100 feet of streets was an unnecessary gift to the railroad. A mere franchise to have been operative during the life of the bridge was all that was required for the piers. It was all that was needed by the railroad. It is all that should have been allowed by the city authorities.

The streets are the publics. That section vacated at Oregon and Adams streets is now the railroads. It is a part of the corporation's physical property on which the public of the future must in transportation rates pay interest and dividends forever. It was bestowed on the company as a free gift with nothing received in return.

As a principle, in any such transaction, the public ought to have a right to be heard. The law should be such that this referendum for protection of the public property should have gone on the ballot and been voted on by the public. When that right is denied their inherited privileges are abridged and their right of self rule narrowed.

It is a plain case of the right of referendum denied. It is an assault upon the system. It is a part of other attacks that will yet be made on the initiative and referendum. The enemies of the system are not dead. The fight on it will not cease. The people have got to defend it or they will lose it. In one form or another the war will go on, for years. If the people suffer themselves to be lulled to sleep by fancied security they will awaken some day to find that they have been beaten and that their popular privileges have taken wings.

HELPING WIDOWS

THE MISSOURI legislature enacted at its last session a bill for helping widows which has just come into force. Any widow in Missouri, who is left with children to bring up, is entitled to a pension of $10 a month for the first child attending school, continuing until the child is of the age of 14, and $5 a month for each other child—the pension is conditioned on her maintaining a home for the children and keeping them in school up to 14 years old.

The administration of the law is left in each county to the judge of the juvenile court, if there be such an officer.

Kansas City, the Kansas City Star tells us, has put the law into effect, as part of Jackson county. Judge Porterfield is the juvenile judge, and he has worked out the necessary plans. Each applicant for a widow's pension must fill in the answers to a set of printed questions as to her circumstances, and hand them to the judge. The juvenile court officer investigates the widow's circumstances and reports them to the judge. He interprets the law to mean that the widow shall stay at home and keep her children off the streets—but the judge advises her to take in family sewing or washing, or like work, consistent with her place as housemother. But keeping the children in school up to 14 years old is a necessary condition.

Here is another instance of the growing desire of the community to assume some part of the burden of its weaker members—not only from the admission of the claims of brotherhood, but from recognition of the gain from the higher standard of efficient labor resulting from the better and more prolonged education of the young.

ONE WAY

IN PORTLAND 293 boys are competing for the Y. M. C. A. prizes for vegetable growing. Each has a garden plat on which he is suiting the plants to soil and season, is watching the gradual growth, is studying the needs of plant life, is observing the effects of cultivation and water, and nursing with his own hands the process of transforming the embryo into the developed vegetable.

An expert from the agricultural college visits each garden at intervals, inspects the plat and plants, offers advice and suggestions and supplies printed instructions to the youthful gardeners. It required three days for this expert, traveling by auto, to visit 100 of the embryo farms and farmers within the city limits of Portland.

Here are 293 boys in touch with nature. They are 293 boys learning the delightful secrets of the soil and seasons.

It is one way to teach lads the lure of the land. It is one effective means of creating a taste for virgin nature and the delights of the country. Two hundred and ninety-three Portland boys engaged in such a pursuit is highly creditable to them and to the Y. M. C. A. organization which is leading them in the activity.

MR. MONTAG

IF JOHN MONTAG is elected to the council in the Sixth ward there will be one man in the body in whom the public will have implicit faith. He is a man of conspicuous integrity, and integrity is a needed asset in the Portland council. When such a man offers to accept the position he ought to be elected. It is not always that such opportunity is offered the citizen.

There is a Republican revolt in the Sixth ward against Counsilman Belding. Though a Democrat, Mr. Montag lacked but a few votes of receiving the Republican nomination over Mr. Belding. The heavy Republican support of Mr. Montag was due to many accusations made against the Republican candidate. It has been publicly charged that Mr. Belding as a councilman has been more representative of the special interests than of the public. There is every reason for the citizens of the Sixth ward to vote for Mr. Montag and against Mr. Belding.

Trans-State Highways

From Lewiston Teller.

It is now getting to be a popular custom to build transstate highways. Iowa's famous feat of building 300 miles of road across the state in a single hour is not likely to be duplicated but other states are taking up the same ideas of cooperative effort in behalf of across the state roads.

In Tennessee a highway association has been formed for the purpose of building a good road diagonally across the state from Memphis to Bristol. It is to be done in two days by the cooperative aid of from 40,000 to 50,000 men. Already 42 counties have organized for the work and will build their portions of the road whether the others do or not.

It is not intended in Tennessee to let the work stop in that state, but an effort will be made to interest other states and to ultimately have a continuous road from the Great Lakes to New Orleans. It is urged that such a situation would encourage tourists to come south and invest their fortune and that land values all along the line would be greatly enhanced.

There are already several sections of proposed national and interstate roads projected between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, running east and west. Recently there was introduced in congress a bill by Representative Hobson providing for two national automobile highways. The bill authorizes the appointment of two commissions, the members taken from various states, to work out a scheme of two highways, one on the 35th parallel east and west and one on a line near 23d meridian from Canada to Mexico.

There should be at least two of these transcontinental routes east and west and three north and south. The plan proposed by the lately organized Northwestern Development league at Helena, Mont., for an auto road from Minneapolis to Seattle is in line with this transcontinental movement. The meeting of the Inter-Mountain Good Roads association at Pocatello next month will undoubtedly develop something in the way of an interstate road north and south from Utah, through Idaho and Wyoming to Montana. Idaho road laws have been so improved that they are calculated to greatly encourage the building of such highways.

All That's Left of Cassie.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

In a little country cemetery not far from Woodstock, Ont., one may see a simple granite shaft in the center of a family plot. It bears the inscription:

> Elizabeth Bigley,
> wife of
> L. S. Chadwick, M. D.
> 1859-1907.

This small monument in an out-of-the-way Canadian cemetery is all that is left to recall the daring ventures in high finance of the notorious Cassie Chadwick, who died in Columbus penitentiary less than four years ago. She already is nearly forgotten. Her name with scores of others is rapidly passing into oblivion. The old Chadwick home at Euclid avenue and East Eighty-second street has been torn down, and upon its site a Jewish synagogue is being erected. Woodstock felt highly important when the world turned toward it to watch the burial of Cassie Chadwick. But now even Woodstock has forgotten.

A party of Clevelanders who remembered Mrs. Chadwick before she began her manifold operations in a financial way, were motoring through Canada last summer, and while passing through Woodstock remembered that it was in that village where Cassie L. Chadwick was buried. They drove out to the little cemetery and there saw in a wilderness of small headstones the marble shaft that marks the last resting place of the unfortunate woman.

The monument rises only a few feet above the ground, and clustering all about it are other graves with similar monuments. A row of young maple trees leads to the Chadwick grave, and in the background, serving as a wind shield, is a clump of great fir trees through which the wind is sounding a continuous lullaby. There were women in the party, and they paused long enough to pick daisies and other wild flowers in the fields to place upon the grave of the Cleveland woman.

It was in 1879 that the future wizard of underground finance first attracted unfavorable attention at Woodstock, when she was arrested for forgery. The girl, not more than 22 years old at the time, forged the name of Reuben Kipp, a farmer, to a promissory note for $300. Later she forged the name of Charles Hayward to a note for $150.

It is Hayward who is buried less than 10 feet from Cassie Chadwick in the cemetery near Woodstock. The girl was not convicted, as it was brought out at the trial that she was of unsound mind. It was shortly afterward that Elizabeth Bigley left Woodstock and began her strange career in New York City, which terminated in her death in the Columbus penitentiary.

Destiny.

Some must be great. Great offices will have
Great talent. And God gives to every man
The virtue, temper, understanding, taste,
That lifts him into life, and lets him fall
Just in the niche he was ordained to fill.
—Cowper.

So far as reported in the press of the state, it appears that few farmers are availing themselves of their legal privilege to register farm names.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Game Warden Finley's heart will be in his work.

* *

Why not A. (Alfred or Abraham) W. (Walter) Lafferty?

* *

Everybody help clean up; make a thorough job of it.

* *

Being president of Mexico will be no easy job for awhile.

* *

Now a Mexican orator might quote! "What a fall was there, my countrymen"

* *

Here's hoping the June brides will be more numerous and happier than ever before.

* *

Diaz gained great trouble and missed much possible European pleasure by not quitting years ago.

* *

If the senate won't do anything good, it should be condemned to stay in Washington all summer.

* *

Wyoming is nearly the smallest state in population but the battleship Wyoming is the greatest one so far.

* *

The public has never heard any good reason why W. Cooper Morris should have been or should be pardoned.

* *

Jim Kelly has to serve 30 days on the rock pile for beating his wife. That is time enough for her to starve.

* *

Why is the ballot in Portland like the tariff schedules? That's easy; it needs cutting down a whole lot.

* *

Hurrah for those Lane county people who at last are actualy building a railroad to Florence, on the coast.

* *

Come ahead, Seattle, there's accommodation in Portland for the whole of "yes," including editors Wilson and Blethen.

* *

According to an Alpine story, the king of birds is greatly offended at the invasion of the winged creatures' domain by featherless man.

* *

Justice Harlan, in the Standard Oil decision matter, might get more votes if it were left to the people, than all the other eight justices.

* *

A fellow named Von Phul was killed in a Denver saloon quarrel over a chorus girl. His name was very appropriate; he was von phul.

* *

The two big newspaper proprietors of Seattle are desirable citizens; they are adding much to the amusement of the people of that city, and doing each other no harm.

* *

Congressman Pepper has introduced a resolution to arm high school students. His Iowa constituents should shake Pepper out of congress. He is not a safe public seasoning.

* *

The New Jersey Democratic machine—what Governor Wilson left of it—is planning to send an anti-Wilson delegation to the next Democratic national convention. It generally takes several smashings to teach a party machine.

* *

Some one will be chosen mayor next week, and some others councilmen. But let's all be glad, and nobody sad, for Queen Rose is coming again. The sun will brightly beam his smiles, and likely there'll be showers, but cool or warm, sunshine or storm, we'll feast the queen of flowers. The spring is over, the crops are growing, Miss June the summer discloses; regal, brilliant and sweet, the bride month we greet, and disport in her ocean of roses.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Condon's council has decreed that no firecrackers shall be exploded in that city on the Fourth.

* *

The Woodville Improvement club is putting up a bandstand in the public park. Croquet sets will be installed in the park.

* *

Negotiations for the establishing of a hospital at Klamath Falls are at such a stage as to give practical assurance of success.

* *

Medford's postoffice clerks have organized a local of the National Federation of Postoffice clerks. Will Warner is president.

* *

The Hydro Patent Power company is installing a plant with a capacity for watering 1000 acres for farmers living near Grants Pass.

* *

Granville Havener, a pioneer of Eugene, who left there 25 years ago, is revisiting that city. He is able to identify only one house.

* *

According to the Klamath Chronicle, the Crater lake tourist season will be at least a month late this year, because of snow on the route.

* *

The Merrill branch of the Klamath County bank is to be made a national bank, with capital stock increased from $10,000 to $25,000.

* *

Eugene Guard: The old gas plant is being dismantled and will be shipped away, its place being taken by the new water gas plant now in operation.

* *

The Sutherlin Fruitgrowers' association has ordered a large transplanting machine for cabbage, tomato and strawberry plants and will lend it to members.

* *

Although bonds were recently voted at Waldport to build a $3500 high school, a movement was later started to raise this to $5000 and erect a much better building.

* *

The Union Scout wonders why the citizens of Union do not get busy and bring some institution to turn into money the force going to waste in the waters of Catherine creek.

* *

There will be many Fourth of July celebrations in Washington county. Forest Grove, Hillsboro, Banks-Buxton and North Plains are already in the field advertising their respective celebrations.

* *

Klamath Falls Elks are rejoicing that they are to be permitted to organize a lodge of their own. The obstacle of insufficient population has been removed on a showing of over 5000 inhabitants.

* *

President Ackerman of the Monmouth normal school has decided not to institute a course in domestic science and art in the normal school, because it would duplicate the course at the Oregon Agricultural college.

* *

Eugene camp No. 115, Woodmen of the World, has inaugurated a big membership campaign, with "400 Members by July 1," as the slogan. An open meeting will be held tonight, at which Governor West will be present.

* *

Under the new bounty law it will not be necessary to cut off both front feet of the pelt of the animal as formerly. The entire pelt is to be brought in and presented to the county clerk, who will cut a slit extending from one eye hole to the other. This can be sewed up afterwards and the pelt used for rugs or mounting.

SEVEN FAMOUS INDIAN CHIEFS

Pontiac.

Pontiac, the mighty Sachem of the Ottawas, was, in many respects, the greatest of all Indian chiefs; and for many years he was the most feared. He was principal chief of that tribe of Indians, but by his skill as an organizer, he eventually drew under his leadership many other nearby tribes, and was known and respected among all the savages who resided in the country, stretching from the Ohio river to the lowest waters of the Mississippi.

Pontiac possessed great energy, craftiness, and oratorical prowess, while his courage in war was far-famed. It is said that he commanded the Ottawas in the defeat of General Braddock at Fort Duquesne—during the French and Indian war—and it is certain that he was treated with much honor by the French officers, for one of them had presented him with the regimentals of a soldier of that country, which he is only known to have worn upon one occasion.

The following story is related of the crafty Red War-Lord, or "Red Napoleon" as he came to be named. One day, closely-wrapped in a most peaceful-looking blanket, Pontiac slouched into the courtyard at the Detroit fort. At his heels followed a throng of savages. Each was garbed the same way, and all carried some article of sale. A more harmless crowd of Indians could not have been found in all America.

So carefully were the blankets wrapped about the redskins that not even the keenest eye would have been able to have detected the arsenal of rifles, knives and tomahawks that were hidden beneath their folds. The plan of the chief was that having entered the fort, the blankets were to be thrown aside, the gates thrown open to a larger body of hidden Indians, and the defenseless English garrison and townsfolk massacred.

But the plan of what was to happen had been revealed to the commander by an Indian girl, and when Pontiac entered the inclosure he found the walls bristling with armed and prepared soldiers. The trick had failed. But Pontiac's heavy copper colored features showed no disappointment as he stalked out again at the head of his baffled followers.

Pontiac was born on the Ottawa river, Canada. He was a great admirer of the French, and had a very strong hatred for the English. When he was thwarted in his fort episode, he laid siege to Detroit. But Indians have not the knowledge of conducting a long siege. When once the Detroit garrison sallied forth against Pontiac's camp, the colonial troops were driven back again with terrific loss. But Pontiac was forced to give up the siege. This wrecked his whole plan of conquest. His failure to capture the Detroit fort lost to Pontiac the trust of many of his followers. Some of the tribes deserted. The confederation fell to pieces. The war dragged on to 1765, when a treaty was signed with the English and Pontiac became outwardly peaceful again. Before another conspiracy could be formed, a Kaskaskia, Illinois, Indian, in 1769, was bribed by an English trader to murder Pontiac.

A feast had been prepared at an Indian village opposite St. Louis, Mo., to which Pontiac had been invited. There is no doubt that the Indian drank deeply, and, when the affair was over, he walked majestically down the village street to the adjacent woods, where he was heard to chant his medicine songs in the dark and silent wood.

As the large figure of Pontiac loomed strangely erect in the shadow of the forest a silent form crept—like a wildcat—close to where he stood. A twig snapped. Pontiac turned to see what disturbed the quiet of the forest, and, as he did so, a tomahawk was buried in his brain. He fell prostrate upon the green carpet of moss. A shrill wail of triumph startled the night birds from the branches, and thus, foully and brutally assaulted, died the mighty chief of the Ottawas.

Tomorrow—Logan.

How Jefferson Davis Received the News of Lincoln's Assassination.

By Mrs. Burton Harrison, in Scribner.

As the presidential party entered a house with difficulty obtained for them (all the inhabitants fearing a threat made by Stoneman's troopers to burn every house giving refuge to Jefferson Davis), the president received by carrier from General Breckenridge, the news of President Lincoln's assassination, tidings universally regretted by the staff and following. "Everybody's comment," wrote Mr. Harrison, "was that in Lincoln the southern states had lost their only refuge in their then emergency. There was no expression other than that of surprise and regret. As yet we knew none of the particulars of the crime."

During the speech made at this juncture by Mr. Davis to a column of General's Duke's cavalry, Mr. Harrison stood close to the speaker and heard distinctly every word uttered by him. There was no reference whatever to the assassination, and no other speech was made. Mr. Davis's remark to Colonel William Preston Johnston in Mr. Bates' house, later on, was that "Mr. Lincoln would have been much more useful to the southern states than Andrew Johnson, his successor, was likely to be"; "I myself," said Mr. Harrison, "heard Mr. Davis express the same opinion at that period."

So much for the oft-quoted charge against Mr. Davis that he had on this occasion spoken approvingly of the horrible crime committed by Booth in the name of the conquered south! My husband often told me that of such a spirit, much less an expression, Mr. Davis could not have been guilty.

"No man ever participated," he went on to say, "in a great war of revolution with less of disturbance of the nicest sense of perfect rectitude in conduct or opinion; his every utterance, act and sentiment was with strictest regard for all the moralities, throughout that troubled time when the passions of many people make them reckless or defiant of the opinions of mankind. His cheerfulness continued in Charlotte and I remember his there saying to me, 'I cannot feel like a beaten man.'"

The Scientific Age.

When I was married to my wife
I shared her sweet domestic labors,
We led a simple country life
And were contented with our neighbors.

In all the jobs a housewife finds
I always was adept and certain;
I fixed the catches on the blinds
And quelled the savage window curtain.

To fit a stovepipe in the wall
To make a shelf or mend a table—
These really were not tasks at all
To one mechanically able.

But when we moved to town, alas
I found my talents much diminished,
A city man must join a class
In engineering 'ere he's finished!

I fear the incandescent light,
I cannot mend the radiator;
It never seems to be quite right—
Our chemical refrigerator!

I cannot understand the 'phone
The vacuum cleaner has men guessing;
The fireless cooker makes me groan
The electric iron is distressing.

Once was handy with my tools,
But now I fuss about and blunder;
Too late to learn these modern rules,
I simply pay the bills—and wonder.
—Delineator

Checking Public Expense

From the San Francisco Chronicle.

The real estate board is leading in the organization of a taxpayers' association which shall watch and check up all expenditures of city government just as the inspection bureau of the Merchants' association checks up the expenditures under our bond issues.

There should be such an organization supported by voluntary subscriptions in every city, regardless of the character of the city government.

All public work costs more than similar work done by private persons, and drags more. All city governments are at all times clamoring for more money, because they see necessity for doing more things, and in some cases because they see chances for more graft.

The more money an administration has the more employes there will be who can be compelled to stand and deliver part of their pay to help their superiors do politics.

Watching and checking will make for economy and help the taxpayers to get full value for their money. In the case of an employer it would be known whether he is not only on a payroll but on a job, and whether that job is necessary.

This city has paid many salaries that were never earned. It may be paying such salaries now.

There should be a thoroughly organized taxpayers' association which is permanent. It should be sustained by subscriptions from every taxpayer, for it will benefit all taxpayers alike, according to the amount of their property.

If it were possible to collect it, one half of 1 per cent of each taxpayers' taxes would amply endow the institution. Of course that is impossible, but if each person who pays $50 to $100 a year and upward in taxes would contribute a very moderate sum they would all save money.

And, what is more, we should have a better governed city and get more to show for the taxes we do pay.

Tanglefoot

By Miles Overholt

WHEN IT RAINS.

When I've finished the job on which I'm staked,
And I've said good-bye to the bunch;
When I've had enough and my thirst is slaked,
And I've finished my last quick lunch,
Then take my clay to a medical school
And tell 'em to look at my brains
And tell 'em to figure by any old rule
Why I'm looney whenever it rains.

When it rains or snows and the bleak winds blow,
I'm as sad as a setting hen;
I hate to stay and I fear to go
And I don't know which from when.
But the sun comes out and I grunt and grin
Like a tickled chimpanzee;
Then I bet my pile and I always win—
I'm a bloomin' fleur de lis.

When the clouds come up then my courage fails,
And I'm blue and sick at heart;
I think of my troubles and county jails
And toothache and things that smart.
I don't know why, but I'm bugs for sure;
I've much more money than brains;
And though I've tried to effect a cure,
I am bughouse when it rains.

Seeking Child Welfare.

From the New York Post.

In the appointment of a municipal child welfare commission, said to be the first of its kind in this country, the Socialists in Milwaukee have made a praiseworthy move toward the betterment of civic life. The resolution adopted by the council provides for a body of five members who shall continue in office for three years, for the purpose of investigating the problem of infant mortality and all conditions surrounding child life in the city. For the expenses of this work the council appropriated the sum of $5000; and a special provision authorizes the commission to raise other funds by private subscription. To cooperate with the commission's efforts the Milwaukee Visiting Nurse association has offered the services of trained nurses, and other public-spirited organizations and citizens have promised their aid. Mayor Seidel is commended for his choice of appointees to the new municipal body. One of the members, Dr. John M. Beffel, to whom credit for the creation of the commission is due, was Mayor Seidel's opponent at last year's election.

They'd Tell Bill About It.

From the Cincinnati Times-Star.

A sad-eyed man fastened George Dunleavy, box office man at one of the uptown New York theatres. "Do you think it would be right for two women, both in mourning, to go to the theatre?" he asked.

Mr. Dunleavy said it would be commendable.

The sad-eyed man appeared pleased.

"Give me two aisle seats for two women in mourning." Mr. Dunleavy dished them out. The sad-eyed man shook his head doubtfully. "It doesn't seem just proper to me," he said, "but I suppose in this case it is all right. You see"—and he lapsed into confidence—"all our folks are spiritualists, and my brother-in-law Bill died the other day. Now, Bill he always wanted to see this show of yours. He talked about it just a day or two before he passed out, and so his wife and my wife, they kind of figured they'd come and see the show and then tell Bill about it."

Alexander the Great

(Contributed to The Journal by Walt Mason, the famous Kansas poet. His prose-poems are a regular feature of this column in The Daily Journal).

"How big was Alexander, pa, that people call him great?" "My son, he used to swat the ball whene'er it crossed the plate. I've seen him knock it half a mile, and thereby save the game; no wonder that the nations ring with Alexander's fame. I've seen him in a crucial place leap twenty cubits high, and claw the blooming firmament to catch a whizzing fly. In all departments of the game he is a honeybird, and would-be rivals seem to me incompetent, absurd. I've seen him plunge for seven yards, then slide upon his face until the umpire called him safe at third or second base. I've seen the fans stand on their heads and tear their clothes and howl when Alexander jumped the fence and nailed a soaring foul. The conduct of our public schools is sure a thing of shame, when growing youths have never heard of Alexander's fame. Our educators should reform; their system's out of plumb; they'll have to hump themselves and change their whole curriculum."

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