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What is a legislature for? Does it
convene and deliberate forty days
merely to raise salaries and create
new jobs for parasites?

Here is a proposition that can be
made of untold benefit to Oregon.
It has horizon. It is a project for
uplift. It is effort to construct.

It contemplates the bringing of soil
into cultivation and production.
It is a program for making homes
for men who are without homes.

It would make farms where there are
no farms. It would make life and
prosperity where there is no life. It
would make the desert a place of
habitation.

It would prepare the way for
turning water powers to man's use.
Water powers and electrical develop-
ment are to be an inestimable bless-
ing to mankind. We only know
them now as monopolized. We do
not realize what they will be when
freed.

Here is the Celilo water
power project, which would deliver
power in Portland at \$14.
The cheapest rate now to big railroad
users of hydro-electrical energy is
\$85. The rate to small consumers is
hundreds of dollars. What would it
mean to the homes all over Oregon
to have the blessings of water pow-
ers at the rates which are possible.

It is far-seeing effort for these
splendid results that is behind the
Deschutes survey. It is patriotic vision
in behalf of the citizenry of the
state. It is broad purpose for state
development.

Yet here is the legislature solemnly
deliberating over bills to prevent
deficits from advertising. Is that
for state development?

It is adding judges to the supreme
court, judges to the Multnomah
circuit court, raising county Judge Cleo-
ton to a circuit judgeship, raising
salaries of every judge in the state,
increasing the deputies and salaries
of deputies in the Portland constab-
le's office when there are sheriffs
and sheriff's deputies and police
and detectives galore to do the same
work. Is that state development?

In the body are popgun bills and
peanut bills by the hundred, bills
for more jobs, bills for higher pay,
bills to create more hangers on, and
bills, bills, bills.

But a real bill, a bill to make the
soil produce wealth for paying the
salaries, a bill for developing an em-
pire, a bill to give men a chance on
the land, a bill for real development
of the state—the Deschutes survey
bill, is viewed by the senate ways
and means committee with an un-
friendly eye.

Can President Malarkey afford to
have his administration as president
of the senate go into history with
such a record?

UPTON'S EXPLANATION
THURSDAY when Representative
Massey, on the floor of the
house, blamed the Multnomah
delegation for passing the un-
savory assessor's bill. Upton of Mult-
nomah made the following remark-
able statement:

The governor didn't save the people
one cent. He called in Assessor Reed
and had him sign that agreement for
political effect. Mr. Reed had already
made the same statement to the mem-
bers of the Multnomah county dele-
gation. He explained that he would not
pay his deputies the maximum salaries
allowed by the bill, but he wanted the
amounts increased so the salaries could
be increased as the work in his office
increased.

Does Upton want the legislature
to understand that Assessor Reed
assured the members of the Mult-
nomah delegation that he would
keep the deputy allowance down to
\$32,620 a year, and that the Mult-
nomah delegation thereupon passed
the assessor's bill carrying a deputy
allowance of \$42,620 a year, or \$10,-
000 a year more than the assessor
needed?

Is Upton the authorized spokes-
man of the Multnomah delegation,
and does the Multnomah delegation
admit that it did so raw a thing as
authorizing a deputy allowance of
\$42,620 on the assessor's promise to
use but \$32,620?

Does the Multnomah delegation
plead guilty to Upton's statement
that it duped outside delegations
into passing a bill for \$10,000 a year
more deputy allowance than the as-
sessor needed, but had a secret
pledge that the assessor wouldn't
use it all?

The Journal is kinder to the Mult-
nomah delegation than is Upton.
Assessor Reed made no such pledge
to all, and probably not to any mem-
ber of the Multnomah delegation.

The proof is in Mr. Reed's public

defense of his bill in an interview in
Monday's Oregonian. A column of the
space was employed in explaining
why he would need so many deputies.
He said:

If every deputy were paid the maxi-
mum salary provided in the bill, the
cost of running the office for 1913
ought not greatly to exceed \$11,000, or
\$9000 less than the official esti-
mate. So far as the number
of deputies is concerned, I can say
without fear of contradiction that every
one of the thirty-five can be kept con-
stantly employed for the next four
years.

That was after the bill was in the
governor's hands. It was the day
before Assessor Reed signed a pledge
in the governor's office to lop off
\$10,000 a year of the deputy allow-
ance.

It shows how the legislature was
jobbed. It shows that Upton's state-
ment in answer to Massey is a
crooked statement.
Why doesn't the legislature repeal
this legislative monstrosity?

TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC
BILL by McColloch in the senate
and another by Hagood in the
house propose that in any
purchase of property for pub-
lic uses, the public shall not pay
more than double the assessed value.
The provisions in each measure are
the same.

It is a plan for safeguarding the
expenditure of public funds. It is
effort to protect the schools from
rapacity that absorbs huge sums at
excess valuations when land is want-
ed for playgrounds or sites for school
buildings.

It is a safeguard that is needed in
the purchase of park sites. It is a
protection that should be thrown
around the purchase of sites for li-
braries, public auditoriums, postof-
fice sites, high school building sites,
and other building spots needed for
the benefit of the public.

The public is literally without pro-
tection now. It is helpless in the
face of greed and rapacity. Every
time it wants a site it falls a victim
to marked up values and when it col-
lects taxes, it must do so on marked
down values.

The public gets the worst of it in
every transaction. It is preyed upon
by every speculator and every land
hog. Great fees are extorted for
commissions, and they all go into the
final total which the public is forced
to pay, a process that raises taxes
and puts new burdens on the small
man.

There should be a just protection
of private property, but there should
also be a just protection for the in-
terests of that public which is al-
ways the victim, that public whose
business is always nobody's business,
that public which is always muled
by the extortions of the avarice and
commercialism of private rapacity.

The McColloch and Hagood bills
are well worth the attention of Pres-
ident Malarkey and Speaker McAr-
thur. They are measures, not in the
interest of office holders, pap suck-
ers and hangers on, but in the in-
terest of all the people.

ARBITRATION REVIVED
AFTER the United States Senate
had altered the Taft Arbitration
Treaties with England
and France in 1911, lest the
traditional jurisdiction of the Senate
over treaty making should be tres-
passed on, those treaties were laid
on the shelf in all three countries.

It is very noticeable now that
Secretary Knox, in his reply to Sir
Edward Grey the other day, ex-
pressed the willingness of the United
States to take these two treaties
down from their dusty places and
pass them. The Root arbitration
treaty of 1908 will expire on June 13
of this year. Not one of the three
countries would be satisfied to be
left without any arbitration treaty,
since they are one in their desire
to follow in any possible dispute, the
well tried course of arbitration.

It is pointed out by the Indepen-
dent that the unratified treaty has
many and strong advantages over
the Root treaty of 1908. In the
Knox treaty reference is not con-
fined to the Permanent Hague Court
of Arbitration. Questions of honor
are not excluded. The vital inter-
ests which the Senate excluded are
specified, are few in number, and
relate mainly to questions that
neither party desires now, or would
entertain the idea of arbitrating.
The Joint High Commission of In-
quiry provided in the Knox treaty is
of great value. To invoke it is not
a matter of fight. And either party
can, if appeal to the commission is
called for, have its members select-
ed either from or outside the ranks
of the "nationals" of the disputing
nations.

For all these reasons it is desir-
able that the new treaty be passed.

CHINA VOTES
CHINA presses quietly on the
path of reform. The old Man-
chu emperors and statesmen
must turn in their graves if they
hear of the Chinese people vot-
ing to elect their governors. The
election took place on December 6,
the first in the history of the people.

Under the Chinese constitution the
process is peculiar to themselves. In
all the eighteen provinces delegates
were balloted for who will sit in the
various provincial assemblies. They
will then attend to the provincial
business and also elect the officers
of the national government.

At the recent election there was
no lack of voters, although it was
their first experience.
The voter, on entering the poll-
ing booth handed his certificate of
identity to the officers in charge.
They looked up his name on the reg-
ister, and, on finding it, handed to

him a ballot. With this the voter
retired to another room, wrote in the
name of his candidate, handed the
ballot to the proper officer, who
placed it in the ballot box, and all
that remained was to count the bal-
lots.

The election, it will be noticed,
was by literate voters—all being
able to read and write.

The voting was supposed to be
universal throughout the Republic.
In Shanghai and Nanking we are
told that all proceedings were
prompt and regular. In Canton the
previous registration had been so
irregular that the voters could not
be identified, and the confusion was
great. In some of the most distant
provinces similar trouble was re-
ported.

The whole story gives further
point to the question, "Why is Amer-
ican recognition of the Chinese Re-
public withheld?" It has been com-
pletely earned.

Under the terms of the ordinance
of 1895, the street was "vacated
for now and all time to come" for
an approach to the railroad bridge.
There was never right or reason in
any program for the property to go
to any railroad company or any ter-
minal company for private use after
it ceased to form a part of the bridge
approach.

The fence of private interests now
encloses a strip 12 feet wide by 260
feet long, and the passing pedestri-
ans must take to the street. It is a
small strip, but as property goes, it
is worth thousands of dollars.

As pointed out a week ago by J.
B. Ziegler in The Journal, Dillon
says in his work on Municipal Cor-
porations, "the streets of a city be-
long of right to the whole people.
Their use for the public benefit, and
for control in the public interest,
ought never to be permanently part-
ed with in favor of any private in-
terest whatever."

No alienation of public rights on a
street should ever be granted ex-
cept for limited periods and on per-
iodical revaluations. Yet here is a
strip in a public street vacated by
city ordinance for purpose of ap-
proach to a bridge, seized by a cor-
poration for private use after it
ceases to serve as a part of such ap-
proach.

The city authorities should leave
no stone unturned in an endeavor
to restore this property to the use
of the public. The corporation it-
self will stand in its own light and
arouse wide hostility against itself
if it attempts by any technical irreg-
ularity of proceeding in the city
council of 1895, to rob the city of
this valuable strip of public land.

Need of remedy and punishment for
all crimes proportionate to gravity is
universally conceded. It is therefore
solely a question of method, most ef-
fective and safe, yet reasonable and
in accordance with the spirit of the
times. Those who advocate capital
punishment through a stern sense of justice
and on principle, do so believing no
other adequate mode will answer. Were
these right the question would be set-
tled. The claim that murderers must
be hung for fear of their escaping or
undue pardoning begs the question.
Great pride is taken because of this
being a Christian nation. The lady of
southern Oregon who wrote our gov-
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victim, offered herself to be hanged in
place of the condemned murderers for
the reasons she gave, evinced a consist-
ency, though childlike and wholly imprac-
tical, bordering on the sublime.

Viewed from the philosophies, theo-
sophic and others, all of man's potencies
and powers, latent or active, are not
necessarily attributes of an immortal
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peninsula, under protection of the
Greek fleet which is mistress of the
Aegean, and supported by the ship's
artillery, would take the Turkish
forts in turn. The forts once taken
the Sea of Marmora will be open to
the fleet and Constantinople at its
mercy.

Another sequel will be that Turkey
in Europe will be cut off from Tur-
key in Asia. Not only will the Tur-
kish army at Tchatalja be isolated in
front and rear, but reinforcements in
men and supplies of provisions
which have been reaching that army
from the Asia side, will be instantly
stopped. The occupation by the al-
lies of the Gallipoli forts spells ruin
to the Turks. The next few days
will see the most desperate fighting
of the whole war.

Now we see what command of the
sea will mean to the allies. For
these days the Greeks have been
buying and building their ships,
training and drilling their crews,
practicing with their guns, great and
little, spending money like water,
and are ready to send their seamen
to death or victory. They are a race
of sailors, with a sea history of over
two thousand years. Their present
part in this great war has been pre-
pared for all that have gone before.

Letters From the People
(Communications sent to The Journal for
publication in this department should be writ-
ten on only one side of the paper, should not
exceed 200 words in length and must be ac-
companied by the name and address of the
writer, so that we may attempt to control in-
dividual action. Some authorities are
now prescribing not only how people
should not dance, but also how they
should dance, which many will think is
carrying government to an absurd ex-
treme, and tends to promote the very
evil it seeks to prevent.

Life's Sacredness Violated.
Portland, Feb. 6.—To the Editor of
The Journal.—Disregard for the sacred-
ness of human life, a brutal desire to
destroy, a blood lust, are marked charac-
teristics of earth's peoples, propor-
tionate to lowness of scale in spiritual
development, bondage to older traditions,
customs, superstitions and dogmas. At-
tacker's train of mad admirers, and
further removal from Aryan root strain.

The eye for an eye and tooth for a
tooth doctrine has dominated our actions
and furnished excuse for atrocious tor-
ture, shedding blood and taking lives, a
doctrine borrowed from peoples of a
lower level of civilization, revenge,
bloodshed and blood lust to us this day.
The spirit has come up to us this day, and
is being breathed through our laws and
the execution thereof. England long
furnished minor crimes with horrible
mutilations of the body, or by death.

England had a shorter time ago
burned women for alleged witchcraft,
and further removal from Aryan root strain.
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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Results would be about the same if
sessions were 80, 90, or 300 days.
Sometimes it takes admirable moral
courage to vote "No" in a legislature.

Figuratively speaking, reform of judi-
cial procedure will come after awhile
by means of an ax.
Instead of grubbing at a little in-
clemency of the weather, read how much
worse it is elsewhere.

After the bill introducing time limit
has passed, members will think of
scores more "very important" bills.
In its own mind, Turkey's principal
trouble is the same as that of many
individuals, can't borrow any money.

It may be that British women ought
to vote, but many of them seem to be
doing their utmost to prove that they
should not.
Carnegie tries, or pretends to try to
let go of his money and can't, but
nevertheless he has no such
trouble; he never gets too much.

The Missouri legislator who intro-
duced a bill prohibiting women from
wearing dresses that button up the back
unless the buttons are as big as dollars
is of course a married man.
The private secretary of Governor
Wilson, who will also be the private
secretary of President Wilson, may be
a very quiet, serene man, but his name—
Tomully—somehow has an ominous
sound.

Instances are constantly arising tend-
ing to furnish excuses for those who
complain that there is too much govern-
ment. Some authorities are now pre-
scribing not only how people should
not dance, but also how they should
dance, which many will think is carry-
ing government to an absurd ex-
treme, and tends to promote the very
evil it seeks to prevent.

Life's Sacredness Violated.
Portland, Feb. 6.—To the Editor of
The Journal.—Disregard for the sacred-
ness of human life, a brutal desire to
destroy, a blood lust, are marked charac-
teristics of earth's peoples, propor-
tionate to lowness of scale in spiritual
development, bondage to older traditions,
customs, superstitions and dogmas. At-
tacker's train of mad admirers, and
further removal from Aryan root strain.

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