

THE JOURNAL

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Half the work that is done in this world is to make things appear what they are not.—Beadle.

MR. LOMBARD IN 1911

MR. LOMBARD stood before an audience last night and said with one breath that the new charter doesn't provide commission government and with the next proclaimed that the commission does all the governing.

Until a comparatively few days ago, Mr. Lombard was a strong advocate of the new charter. Why did he change? If he is right now, he was trying to fool the people a few days ago.

Why doesn't Mr. Lombard reveal to the people the real reason as to why he changed? Why doesn't he take up the old charter and tell wherein it is better than the new one?

Friday, April 21, 1911, speaking of a meeting held by Mr. Lombard in his former candidacy for mayor, The Journal said:

One of the features of the meeting was the applause given Lombard in his advocacy of commission government. His clean cut declaration against the present Portland charter as obsolete and inadequate was cheered again and again.

April 20, 1910, in an address before the Portland Rotary club, Mr. Lombard said:

Mr. Welein is reported to have said that the old charter of Portland is good enough. I think he is wrong. I say so from my own experience in the conduct of city affairs.

WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY

IF ANY one interested in the well being of the community were asked what state university is doing most good, in the direction of public, social and personal health in body and mind, the majority would probably reply the University of Wisconsin.

forms, by individual students and investigators. For all the good it does the individual average man it might as well be hidden in Egyptian pyramids.

Such bulletins—short, simply expressed, and selected—would constitute a state, social and economic Literary Digest, to be issued at short intervals—a gift by the state, through its university, to all its citizens.

GOVERNMENT IN SPOKANE

IN SPOKANE, commission government lowered the tax rate. It strengthened the financial standing and credit of the city. Spokane bonds bring a higher price by several points in the eastern money centers than do bonds of cities of Spokane's class under the old council system.

Commission government not only lowered the tax levy in Spokane, but made a direct saving in the budget expense alone of nearly \$200,000 in 1912.

The fiscal year of the city closed in 1913 without a deficit appropriation for the first time in ten years. So reassuring is commission government to outside capital that at the present time, over \$33,000,000 worth of improvements are under way and in process of construction in Spokane.

So well pleased are the people of Spokane with commission government, that a measure to abolish it at the 1912 election was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

The Spokane charter and the new Portland charter are very similar. Both have five commissioners of five departments. Both have the preferential voting system. Both confer similar powers on the commission.

In fact, the Spokane charter was used freely by the various Portland commissions as a basis for framing the Portland charter, changes being made only to suit the differing conditions in Portland.

GERMAN WOOL INDUSTRY ASIDE light on the conditions of the German wool manufacturing industry may be found in the report just issued by Stohr & Company of Leipzig, the largest of the German manufacturers, whose turnover last year was more than \$5,500,000, and whose stockholders are receiving a dividend of 12 per cent—the same as last year.

THE BRITISH BUDGET

THE introduction of the British budget for the current year adds point to the suggestions favoring a budget for the United States.

perity of Britain as a manufacturing, trading, and investing nation is so plainly shown by the returns from taxation provided for in previous budgets, that opposition in Parliament is disarmed. No faction attempting to obstruct any of the welfare plans now in operation has any chance of success.

The announcement of the Chancellor that he is not under the necessity of levying fresh taxes will be met with a sigh of relief. The big burdens will be more cheerfully borne since all the world knows how the money will go.

MR. LOMBARD'S ABSURDITIES

MR. LOMBARD said in an address last night: "The fact is we are not going to vote on commission government at all next week; we are voting on a charter that has no resemblance whatsoever to a commission form, which gives the mayor all the power to do as he pleases and which nullifies civil service."

Laugh not at the ragged urchins who play ball on the bottom of one of Portland's excavations. Some future Honus Wagner or Ty Cobb may spring from this obscurity.

Oregon maidens have dainty little feet, just long enough to reach from the heel to the toe.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Mr. Cline's Meaning. Portland, April 25.—To the Editor of The Journal—Not being in the habit of making reply to personal criticism in the press, this innovation, by your permission, is made because of Mr. Berry's misapprehension expressed in The Journal yesterday, of my meaning in what was said in the Methodist ministers' meeting last Monday.

Under the old charter, the mayor has the appointment of more than forty officials. Under the new charter he has no power to appoint officials.

Under the old charter the mayor has the veto. Under the new charter, he has a single vote, or just one fifth the legislative power of the council.

Why is Mr. Lombard trying to deceive the people of Portland about the new charter? Why by misrepresentation of its provisions, is Mr. Lombard trying to bamboozle the people of Portland?

HEIGHT OF BILL BOARDS

Portland, Or., April 25, 1913.—To the Editor of The Journal—Very glad to see your editorial on the height of bill boards. The children pass through our public schools, coming out "just like the rest of us," but not so the Asiatic.

Vote for Spade, Hoe and Rake! About 5 a. m. is a nice time, now, to get out.

Don't permit yourself to envy the two Alaskan miners who took out \$20,000 worth of coarse nuggets in a single day. They live on bacon and beans and sour dough biscuit, and never see a ball game.

SMALL CHANGES

It is to be hoped that the president realizes that there is quite a patch of country west of Philadelphia, or even Buffalo.

There are many good reasons on earth why a real official and his family should feel obliged to serve dinners every little while to a select number of well-to-do functionaries.

Every time Herman Slecken appeared in the spotlight last week a man carrying a camera broke into a brisk run. At last the sharpshooter snapped Slecken as he stepped out of his auto at the door of his Wall street banking house.

It isn't any wonder that Rose Cecil O'Neil is successful. She unites good business judgment with her artistic ability. She does not permit herself to be blocked away from profits because other people lack that dollar judgment she owns.

1912, regulates the construction and maintenance of sign and bill boards. This ordinance does not limit the height of bill boards or sign boards, consequently, Mr. Jewell is not correct in referring to an ordinance which limits the height to eight feet.

Portland, April 25, 1913.—To the Editor of The Journal—The new charter was drawn up by such men as John Goarin, H. W. Scott and others of the same calibre, but of course they knew nothing of civic government, and we have got to have change.

Portland, April 25, 1913.—To the Editor of The Journal—I respectfully suggest that, in deference to northeast Portlanders, the name of the street that has heretofore borne the name of "Broadway" be changed to "West Broadway." That is to say, I think the new name of old Seventh street should be "West Broadway."

NEW YORK DAY BY DAY

making her rich. Miss O'Neil planned a Cubist doll. Then she went to the doll makers of the United States.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

Albany is about to establish a uniform system of cluster lights. Woodburn will transfer to the Fourth of July and the hot business yielded by the recent horse show.

Articles of incorporation of the Presbyterian church, which has been filed with the county clerk of Crook county. The incorporators are John W. Dennis, C. J. Lloyd and J. P. Duckett.

Speaking editorially of the banquet held in Albany, the Democrat says: "It is seldom possible to throw a rock into the dining room of any local hotel between the hours of 8 and 12 p. m. without hitting a man who is selling something short of a rigid quarantine can prevent a large attendance at these functions."

No matter what people may say, New York has one sacred thing. That is the Saturday half holiday of the magistrates' bench. Magistrate House entered his court room last Saturday morning to find it jammed by 230 unfortunates and the attending policemen.

When the Cubists and Futurists gave their art exhibition here Miss O'Neil had an inspiration. She remembered the Billiken doll which the city woman of Chicago devised some years ago—and which rewarded its creator by

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LOOK AT THE GROCERY WINDOW

From the Toronto Star. While everybody is complaining of the high cost of living one need but take a walk through any part of the city and the windows of the grocery stores in order to find that the food of the people gives one food for thought.

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The expensive fruits and vegetables which 10 or 15 years ago were procurable only in the city or a few shops in Toronto, patronized by people who were not compelled to worry about the cost of living—these imported, out of season fruits and vegetables are today exposed for sale in grocery windows in every part of the city.

This means that these luxuries yesterday are the staples of today. If a thousand groceries in this city are exposing in their windows fruits and vegetables imported from all over the world, it means that they are selling these goods over their counters to their customers.

If one may judge from the grocery windows all about the city the people almost as a whole must be buying and using hot-house and imported fruits and vegetables as only the luxurious few did 10 or 15 years ago.

The grocers on every street in the city are not carrying these goods for fun. They are not exposing strawberries at 25 cents per box unless people are buying them at that price. Olives are not an absolute necessity on the tables of the poor—and any man is poor who had difficulty in paying his bills—yet nearly every grocery in Toronto confronts you with olives in every shape and form.

For 10 months of the year—or is it 12?—the corner groceries sell tomatoes, although our climate only permits their production for four months. By the time they are abundant most people have tired of them for table use, although, we think, it is still the habit of people in Toronto to make a catnap in September rather than in February.

Grapefruit begins to become as much a family necessity as potatoes were to our simpler fathers. Apparus, which people used to eat when their gardens produced it, is now sold in every shape and form. The salt herring barrel has disappeared from the grocery; in its place stands the porcelain-lined vat from which the succulent oyster is prepared. The cucumber, at 19 cents a piece, gratifies the appetite in February and is displaced at 5 cents a dozen when nature thrusts them on us in abundance, and dealers sell them by the basket.

So it goes in everything. The cost of living has gone up. But if the cost of living has advanced 40 per cent in 20 years, we venture to say that the scale of living must have advanced about another 40 per cent.

Pointed Paragraphs

In the game of love a girl plays her heart against a diamond. Anyway, it doesn't take nine tailors to make a self-made man. Remove the obstacles if you want things to come your way. It takes a truly great actor to realize that he isn't the whole show.

The man who always tries to get what is coming to him seldom stops at that. You can flatter any man by speaking of his crankiness as the eccentricity of genius. And it is easier for a woman to wear her clothes well than it is for her to wear well herself. A soft answer turns away wrath, but the soft drink habit does not make for the popularity of Peoria. After a spinster has married she may discover that she merely drew a consolation prize. Always listen to a friend's advice. It may enable you to show him later that he didn't know what he was talking about. From the Seattle Sun. Somehow it seems that we do not get as much pleasure out of life as we once did. This statement is the wall of the man dropping into "the lean and slipper'd pantaloon"; for young and old alike the pleasures of the conditions which live too sense, the eagerness for material gain is too great, and the fight for fame and power too fierce. It would, perhaps, relieve the stress of things somewhat if, on April Fool's day, we could go back to the ally days of the old village and freely participate in that harmless and mirth provoking prankishness which added so much light and laughter to the lives of our fathers. Nor would we play a fool's part to do it. Fools have more wisdom than we have dreamed of in our philosophies and the ironies of life seem to sharpen their wits. Court buffoons in the past have been keener than their masters. Sometimes too much culture has been a real burden. When we know too much we see nothing clearly, and strange as it may seem, we often educate ourselves away from the simple truths of life. The senses of the savage are keener than our own. The very complexity of our psychologies is undoing us. Our minds are starving for simpler things. We need more play, more frankness, more of that boyish abandon and buoyancy which helps to keep the cheeks aglow. It might profit to play the whole some role of a wise fool one day each year. We may as well admit it; we are too dignified, too stiff, too formal. We should put aside these dull qualities once in a while and scamper down to the boy's level. Oliver Wendell Holmes was not idly dreaming when he said he would "rather laugh a bright haired boy" than "reign a gray beard king." Another Side of Mr. Bryan. From the Boston Globe. It is a long time since this country has had a secretary of state who would appear at a church anniversary and address his auditors on the evils of intemperance, gambling and swearing. But that is what Mr. Bryan did impressively on Sunday, and the incident furnishes an interesting sidelight on his character. The American people, even those who do not drink and swear, have respect for Mr. Bryan, and will find no fault with his attitude toward such personal faults. No intention to disparage other secretaries of state is meant, but Knox or Elihu Root are big just that topic was addressed a church assembly, and there is no doubt that James G. Blaine or Daniel Webster would have selected quite different themes.