THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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Know then thyself, presume
.....not God to scan;
The proper study of mankind is
man.
—Pope.

BUYING OUR OWN BONDS

A HUNDRED thousand dollars worth of Portland water bonds were sold Thursday at 88.

This is $12,000 less than the par value of the bonds. The interest is four per cent, or double the rate paid depositors by the postal savings bank.

Though established less than two years ago, the postal savings bank in Portland has deposits aggregating more than three quarters of a million dollars. There is no doubt that were Portland water bonds, bearing four per cent, available these depositors would prefer them to the plan of depositing their money in postal savings on a basis of two per cent annual interest.

There is ample proof of the desire of people of small means to invest their savings in city bonds. Two demonstrations of it have occurred recently in St. Paul. A department store floated an issue of $89,000 of paving bonds over its counters in two days. The bonds were in small denominations and were sold in large part to working women. Much of the money turned in for them had the unmistakable appearance of having been hoarded.

James J. Hill's bank afforded the other instance in St. Paul. It issued ten dollar certificates against a twenty-five thousand dollar bond issue bearing four and one half per cent interest. The buyers were janitors, stenographers, laundrywoman and other workers. As in the case of the department store, much of the money had been brought forth from old tea pots, ancient stockings and antiquated tin cans.

The demand was so great that the issue would have been exhausted in an hour if the buyers had not been limited to $100 each. Many of them asked to be awarded $500 to $1000.

The officials of the Hill bank declared afterward that the success of the plan was abundantly demonstrated. The president of one of the big national banks expressed the opinion that all of the city's securities would be taken care of locally if the Hill plan could be applied to all issues.

There is not the slightest doubt that Portland's securities could be largely handled in the same way. All that is needed is a group of financiers or a strong bank to do here what James J. Hill is doing in St. Paul. It has been done in Philadelphia where an issue of $4,200,000 was quickly sold to small buyers within that city's own corporate limits. It has been done in Cleveland, and is to be done in Minneapolis.

It is done in Germany, and has been done in France from time immemorial. The purchase of the nation's own securities by small investors is one of the means by which France has become the richest nation in the world.

The experience in St. Paul and elsewhere prove that there is in every city many people who are glad to buy city bonds. They are prevented from doing so now because of the terms under which issues are sold. The $753,000 now on deposit in the postal savings bank in Portland and drawing only two per cent is some indication of what would happen if Portland bonds were placed within reach of average people in denominations and on terms that would make them available.

It is a change that should be inaugurated. The wastefulness and loss of the present system which sends most of our interest money out of the state is inexcusable.

SENATORIAL COURTESY

SENATORIAL courtesy is an evasive thing, the sort of thing that slips around the corner when a policeman comes in sight. Senator Oliver of Pennsylvania, testifying Friday at the "insidious lobby" investigation, gave a long list of Pittsburg manufacturers who had called on him, but they were all "honorable gentlemen seeking to impress on national legislators the convictions they believed to be honest."

The language was well chosen, probably inadvertently. Men these days can bring themselves to "believe" a conviction honest when they know the process of arriving at the belief was not honest. Honesty is not a matter of belief; it is an able-bodied, dominating thing that can be known, felt, possessed. If a man merely believes himself honest the chances are he is not honest. If a man believes that another believes himself honest, and acts upon that belief, the man who acts is not honest nor a fit representative of honest people.

The senatorial Olivers, brought into the open by the investigation, are a lonely lot. The barren lives they lead at Washington, the desultory conversations they hold with "honorable gentlemen" who stray into their offices, the extreme nicety with which they avoid talking to colleagues about important pending legislation—these denatured senatorial courtesies make up their day's work. They are more to be pitied than blamed.

What shall the world think of a free and vigorous people who condemn their Olivers to lives of such ennui?

THE JOB HUNTERS

REGIMENTS of job hunters are swarming around the commissioners and mayor elect.

Indorsements are being sought. Men of alleged pull are asked to intercede. From now until all positions are filled, the members of the new governing body will be hounded by place hunters.

These are the rocks on which many an administration is wrecked. President William Henry Harrison was hounded into his grave by office seekers. It is one of the most dangerous influences that surrounds the new commission.

There should be a stern resistance to this job-mad army. The mayor and commissioners-elect should bestow no position as a reward for service in the late campaign. They have no right to pay off political debts with a public job. They have no right to use a public position for discharge of a personal obligation.

Nor should men of prominence embarrass the new officials by indorsing the candidacies of job hunters. It is wrong by such recommendations to become a part of the scramble for positions. It is wrong to handicap the commission with embarrassing indorsements that the indorser knows beforehand ought not to be made.

Let the mayor and commissioners-elect go out and select proper assistants. They have to assume the responsibility. They are to be accountable for the acts of the army of city employes. Give them a chance for survival by not forcing upon them employes that they do not want.

The people are expecting a highly efficient government. They are paying official salaries ample enough to guarantee effective government. The way to such a government is through a staff of competent employes in each department. There must be an unscarred chief of police. There must be an able city attorney. There must be an untainted and honest city engineer. There must be a municipal judge of judicial stature.

The success or failure of the new government will be at once disclosed in the character of the appointees. There is no surer index.

Government cannot be higher than the men who administer it. Public service cannot be more effective than the men who render it.

THE ROOSTER'S CROW

THE department of agriculture has done much for humanity, but its latest proposal for depriving the rooster of his crow is revolutionary. Revolutions sometimes fail of their purpose; they always entail rearrangement of the world, and rearranging is often more bothersome than is enduring. What will happen if scientists have their way and silence the rooster by cutting one of his vocal cords? They say the operation is painless, but physical pain is not to be compared with mental agony.

Think of Mr. Rooster's utter hopelessness when Mrs. Hen can outtalk him. He will be reduced to the level of mere man; his proud distinction over the human rooster will be gone. Is man so base a creature as to pull another down because he, himself, cannot rise? Perish the thought!

Is the future materialist to be given an added argument against holy writ? Shall the crowless rooster disprove the scriptures? Must Tennyson come back to earth to revise

The sweetest little maid
That ever crowed for kisses?

Must Shakespeare return to blue pencil

The morning cock crew loud?

Shall the time-honored political emblem of victory be made useless? Shall music be revised to conform with future facts? Must Grieg rewrite his "Morning" in the Peer Gynt suite, not to discard the rooster's crow, but to usher in the day in dead silence?

And why? Shall the symphony of living be ruthlessly destroyed to allay irritated feelings of the bridge player?

NO COMPETING CANAL

THE Wilson administration has decided to urge ratification of the treaty negotiated with Nicaragua during closing days of the Taft administration. The treaty is said to be acceptable to President Wilson and Secretary Bryan except in one or two minor particulars, and indications are that the senate will ratify after these changes are made.

When the treaty is ratified the United States will secure a perpetual and exclusive franchise for a canal through Nicaragua, together with a naval station and several small islands in the Pacific. There has been no serious talk about Europe utilizing the Nicaraguan route, but Central America has been stirred from time to time by rumors, eagerly seized upon by revolutionary factions. Ratification of the treaty will remove the opportunity for further rumors and will safeguard the United States against further trouble.

Nicaragua will receive $3,000,000 for the concessions and Secretary Bryan insists that the money be spent on public works or education in that country. The United States will get a naval base on the Gulf of Fonseca, where the American fleet can gather for maneuvers and target practice. The Gulf of Fonseca is one of the few bodies of water on the west coast having ample and deep harbor facilities.

Acquirement of the Nicaragua canal route may prove to be a practical benefit. While there is no present purpose to build a second canal, the time may come when the Panama canal will prove inadequate. The Niracagua route would shorten the distnace between northern Atlantic and Pacific ports by something like 2000 miles. It is said that a canal to serve lighter draught vessels could be built at minimum cost.

The future may prove that an investment of $3,000,000 at the present time is the best of good business.

THE BEST SERVICE

NO PORTLAND newspaper ever gave the public better service than was The Journal's handling of the recent Portland election returns.

From the time the polls closed until complete results were announced on Wednesday afternoon, The Journal kept a force of 30 persons collecting, assembling, tabulating and totaling the returns. Five adding machines were a part of the plant with which the paper operated. In the news rooms, 22 persons constantly, and part of the time 25, were occupied with the tabulations and totaling of the figures. No finer organization or better system was ever applied in Portland as is abundantly proven by the results.

At 10:20 Monday evening, a little more than three hours after the polls closed, The Journal signaled from the tower of The Journal building the election of Albee.

At 2 o'clock Tuesday, The Journal carried results in 95 precincts on mayor and from 78 precincts on commissioners and measures, and with totals accompanying the figures. No other paper carried results so complete and from so many precincts.

At 3 o'clock Tuesday, The Journal gave results from 102 precincts on mayor, from 101 on commissioner and from 78 on ballot measures. The highest number of precincts carried by any other paper was 99 on mayor, 97 on commissioner and 55 on ballot measures.

Two hours later in its sport extra, The Journal announced that Brewster had passed Clyde, and that the commission would consist of Daly, Dieck, Bigelow and Brewster. This announcement was made in the 5 o'clock edition of The Journal on Tuesday, 22 hours after the polls closed. The information was placed in the hands of Portlanders at 5 o'clock on Tuesday, and went to them as they were leaving for their homes the day after election.

It was Tuesday's election news printed on Tuesday, and The Journal was the only Portland paper that printed it on Tuesday.

In The Journal's 3 o'clock edition on Tuesday was the announcement that Mr. Barbur had been elected auditor for a two years' term.

Fifteen hours later the Oregonian announced that Mr. Barbur had been elected auditor for a four years' term, or twice the length of term to which he was elected.

Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock The Journal printed complete returns from the entire city, giving the result of all choices and totals, including complete returns on all ballot measures with majorities for or against. In that edition it was stated that Daly and Dieck would have the four year term, information that was not published in the Oregonian until Friday morning, 39 hours after it appeared in The Journal.

No election in the history of Portland was ever more fully or more accurately covered by any newspaper than by The Journal in its reports of the results of last Monday's election.

GOOD HEALTH CERTIFICATES

ASTORIA physicians say they cannot give certificates of good health under the new marriage license law short of three weeks' time and for less than a $15 fee.

There seems to be virtue in the new law. Possibly the Astoria doctors are correct. Perhaps a fee of $2.50 for the physician's service is small. Yet the legislature had to consider the fact that marriage is for the poor as well as for the rich and that an honorable wedlock should not be made too expensive.

May it not be that Astoria physicians are proposing a far more technical certificate than the legislature contemplated? Is it not a fact that an examination on a less expensive basis would still be a great service to mankind.

If, by a $2.50 examination of would-be bridegrooms, even a few young women could be saved from the terrors of some of the appalling diseases that are carried into marriage, would it not be worth while? Is there nothing in, under, or above the earth that the physicians owe mankind, except on a basis of so much per?

"Caseic," meaning pertaining to cheese, is a simple word and the failure of Senator Chamberlain to spell it in the spelling bee between newspaper men and statesmen at Washington Thursday night was, it must be confessed, a disappointment to his constituents. The words exsiccate, fuchsia, cederiaceous, ecumenical and folliaceous were easy for the senator.

In his address to the graduates of the naval academy at Annapolis Secretary of the Navy Daniels told the embryonic rear admirals that the government was not educating cadets, that they might take place with big industrial and manufacturing firms. They were expected, he said, to remain in the service of their country.

Senor Ezequiel Ossio of Chile thinks John D. Rockefeller is a "piker." Senor Ossio who claims to be a nitrate king and the richest man in the world, says, "I've so much money I can't count it. John D., bah; he's poor compared to me. Maybe I am worth a billion or so."

Tarrant county, Texas, is spending one million dollars on good roads. We understand there has been some talk about good roads in Oregon counties—talk, of course, costing less than macadam.

One practical result of the "lobby" investigation, being conducted before the United States senate, is the damming of the flood of literature and telegrams protesting against a cut in duties.

A Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, railroad clerk killed two of his superiors because of umbrage over his wages. What a slaughter there would be should this practice become general.

The Southern Pacific wants to issue notes and spend millions of dollars in Oregon. Its credit is good, gentlemen of the money bags.

The Espee was never more musical. May its notes charm the bankers and bring joy and harmony to Oregon.

Letters From the People

(Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on only one side of the paper, should not exceed 300 words in length and must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender. If the writer does not desire to have the name published, he should so state.)

The Stay-at-Home Vote.

Portland, June 6, 1913.—To the Editor of The Journal—There are a few of us voters who are sincerely glad it finally dawned upon The Journal that it was not "the vicious interests—the unfits—the incompetents," who did the voting Monday, as an editorial of Tuesday indicated. After a cool survey it can be easily learned by those who investigate that the ones to whom the question "Why didn't you vote?" applies, generally say in off-hand way, "Oh, what's the use," or "Oh, I don't know or care anything about those things," or, "Oh, I didn't have time to study up men and measures, so what's the use?"

Well, all the best class of interested citizens are heartily glad that these people do not vote. If they went to the polls and voted without first considering matters we are sure the verdict of the people of last Monday would never have registered the intelligence it did.

You say because the people voted down bonds was because of the high price of lands desired. That may be some reason, but believe me it's because we believe it better not "to bite off more than can be chewed."

We believe it is just as inconsistent to get a "white elephant" upon our hands that might be very useful "in the parade" 20 years from today, as it would be for a bargain counter hunter to buy a bargain evening gown that might be more expensive five years from now when it may be needed.

Recently a high authority said in reference to a financial calamity of one of the big railroads, that it was not the tariff bill, not the panicky conditions, but extravagance. "They bit off more than they could masticate;" and what applies to a big enterprise aptly applies to our blessed city—a city in itself with more glorious opportunities and finer climate and scenery than others, and possible prosperity if instead of so much extravagance in trying to improve God's work the same energy was expended in encouraging small manufacturing industries, small business on cash basis, small endeavors from the many instead of large enterprises by the few, small homes, better arranged with modern conveniences and sanitation and all paid for, instead of the big watered stock contraptions.

This generation needs a lesson in creeping instead of flying.

God bless our country, state, county and city, with big men with good hearts and great minds, who are able to grasp the opportunity to help individuals more than groups of individuals.

Encourage the ignorant, indifferent voter to stay at home on election day. This no doubt would have a beneficent effect upon those who don't wish to be listed in this class. R. T. HUGHES.

Preferential System Proved.

Portland, June 6, 1913.—To the Editor of The Journal—The preferential voting system of the new charter has proved itself. Of the honest objections to the document at the time of its adoption, more were based on the system of voting prescribed than on any other one feature. The wording of that portion of the charter relating to voting is necessarily somewhat complicated and the direct primary fetish was still sacred to some. It was an innovation in this state and so had to meet much opposition.

The election just held was a very severe test—more severe than we are likely to have again, for two reasons. First, it was new to the voters, and in addition twice as much voting was to be done as will be the case hereafter. Instead of four commissioners, at future elections we will have but two to elect. Instead of mayor and auditor we shall have but one of the two at each election.

The old-line politicians, in their alleged wisdom, at once figured that the system could easily be beaten by voting only first choices. Gentlemen of that ilk seem to learn best by knocks on the head. A casual reading of the results in this election is sufficient to show that lessons have been well taught. We shall hear very little advocacy of "single shooting" hereafter.

The nonpartisan, preferential voting plan is designed to make character voting and character electing possible, to do away with party domination, to make it possible for an elector to choose from the field rather than from the high men at two or three party primaries, and to give him enough choices to make his selections effective.

The system has done just that in its first test here. The appeal on personal as well as political arguments fell flat. The voters readily took advantage of the opportunity for character selections. Extensive acquaintanceships, lodge affiliations and party strategy alike were disregarded. The nonpartisan preferential system gave the electors a chance to base their votes on their own judgment of the fitness of the applicants for the positions to be filled. The officials were selected on that basis. The provision of the charter about which so many were doubtful has justified itself splendidly. C. D. M.

Fundamentals of Socialism.

Portland, Or., June 5.—To the Editor of The Journal—In Wednesday night's paper, under the heading "Inquiries as to Socialism," an attempt has been made to answer certain questions relating to conditions under Socialism. As the writer of these answers evidently has a very imperfect conception of the basic principles of Socialist philosophy, I would like to supplement them with a few remarks that might help the inquirer to a better understanding.

1. "Under Socialism, will the government own the land, all business and buildings, also a person's home?"

I agree with The Journal's answer that we can by no means foretell the details of the Socialist commonwealth, but there are certain principles that are essential to that form of government and are recognised and accepted as such by practically all Socialists and by political economists. One of these is the social ownership of the means of production and distribution. In other words, the social ownership of the things that are socially used, such as mines, factories, water power, land where socially used, transportation and distribution systems and public utilities of all kinds; and individual or private ownership of all things used individually, such as personal effects, homes, automobiles, etc.

2. "After a person has made $100,000 will he have to give all over that to the government?"

3. "Can a person be able to make $100,000 under Socialism?"

The prime object in socializing production and distribution is the abolition of the exploitation of labor. Anything less is not Socialism. This means the elimination of profits, including interest and rent. When this is effected each man will receive the aquivalent of the full social product of his labor, mental or physical, and he will receive only that. As nearly as we may judge from statistics that are available this social product under present methods of production and at present prices of commodities would equal an income of from $2000 to $3000 per annum. If one saved $1000 a year from this and kept it up for 100 years he would accumulate $100,000. Any Socialist would smile at the suggestion of limiting by law the amount that one might accumulate by saving his earnings.

If Mr. Lowe really desires to learn what Socialism means there are many books in the Portland library dealing with this question. Among the best are "Socialism and Social Reform," a non-Socialist treatise by Richard T. Ely, professor of political economy in the University of Wisconsin, and "Industrial Problems," by N. A. Richardson, a plain, effective treatment of the subject by a Socialist.

E. ROLLA BUSH.

It Didn't Take.

From Judge.

It was in Sunday school, and the young teacher was endeavoring to obtain certain data for the church records. Turning to one of the little pupils she asked:

"Ethel, dear, were you ever baptized?"

Ethel, who is a very serious child, thought deeply for a moment before replying, then she said slowly:

"Yes, I think I was once, but it didn't take."

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Neither does it pay to crow over unsoiled milk.

* *

Trying to be a good citizen has made many a man unpopular.

* *

Just the same, it's a poor rule that refuses to work our way.

* *

The aeroplane chauffeur hasn't anything on the flight of time.

* *

"Seek and ye shall find," but not necessarily the political office desired.

* *

Every dog has his day, and every rooster takes the morning for his very own.

* *

Cheap people are always looking for something cheaper than themselves.

* *

Never put off till tomorrow what any one is willing to do for you today.

* *

Occasionally a woman can tell a man what she thinks of him without thinking very hard.

* *

The Lord pays more attention to a short prayer from the heart than to a long one from the lips.

* *

And many a man's idea of being stylishly dressed is to wear a necktie that would start a riot at a funeral.

* *

If a woman ever does find her ideal man she almost invariably discovers that some other woman has a prior claim on him.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Superintendent Arant, of Crater Lake park, believes that by walking the last four miles of the road, tourists will be able to reach the lake by June 20.

* *

Independence Monitor: Those who have gone to California this season to look with a view of investing are returning. Oregon's verdure is green, her crops heavy and her prospects fine, while our sister state is experiencing a dry spell.

* *

Roseburg Review: That children's playground in the courthouse square is proving a source of great delight for the youngsters, and an increasing number seem to be utilizing it every day. The Ladies' Auxiliary did a highly commendable thing in establishing this feature.

* *

Twenty-five years ago, as shown by the items reminiscently reprinted in the Prineville Review from its files of 1888, there were 1060 voters in Crook county, hay was being hauled 45 miles to Prineville, City Marshal Charlston was firing vagrants out of town, and Spokane was still called Spokane Falls.

* *

Attorney Charles J. Ferguson, of Klamath Falls, returning from a tour that included Portland, Seattle, Spokane, Walla Walla, Salem and Ashland, as well as New Westminster, Victoria, Vancouver and other British Columbia cities, makes to his fellow townsmen the cheering report, as per the Klamath Falls Herald, that "Klamath Falls is as busy as any other town on the coast, and busier than most."

TARIFF BOARD WOULD CLOUD THE ISSUE

Stoughton Cooley in Chicago Record-Herald.

Many good citizens are puzzled to understand why the Democratic congressmen are opposed to the appointment of a tariff board; and they think it strange that the Underwood bill should be put through without public hearings. Is not the tariff a business proposition, they ask, and should it not be framed on a business basis? Why permit a lot of hare-brained congressmen to dispose of matters of vital concern to the whole country? Why ignore the advice of the shrewd and able business men who conduct these vast enterprises? Why not appoint a non-partisan board of experts to investigate the whole tariff, item by item, and to recommend to congress from time to time the changes found to be necessary?

Sounds good, doesn't it? Why should even such a stupid creature as the Democratic jackass turn a deaf ear to such a plea? There is a reason.

In matters of administration experts are necessary; in matters of principle the people must determine for themselves. The doctor prescribes the medicine, but the patient determines the kind of doctor he wants. The judge interprets the law, but the jury determines the guilt. The engineer digs the canal, but the people determine whether or not a canal is to be dug.

Do you catch the distinction? It is important; it is indispensable. The principle can be determined only by the people as a whole; its administration or execution is left to experts. There is a great principle involved in the tariff question. Shall the taxing powers of government be restricted to raising revenue to defray the expenses of common service, or shall it be extended to exacting toll from the mass of the people for the benefit of a part of the people? In other words, shall we have a tariff for revenue, or a tariff for protection? No board of experts, no matter how able, can decide that question. The people themselves must determine it. When it has been decided once for all, whether we are to keep a protective tariff, or are to adopt a tariff for revenue only, then it will be time to employ experts to determine the rates of duties on particular items.

The eastern vice president of the National Woolgrowers' association repeats this plea, and seems heartbroken when his words fall upon indifferent ears. The Louisiana cane growers find themselves in the same predicament. The trouble with these men is they are looking so intently at their own interests that they lose sight of the interests of the rest of the country. Suppose a board composed of able and honest men should investigate woolgrowing in the west and cane growing in Louisiana. They would find that the herdsmen and the planter paid so much for labor and so much for land, which would fix the price of his product to give a profit. Then the board would visit other countries to find out the cost of labor and land there, together with the rate of profit at which the business is conducted. The conclusion of the board would be that the duty on wool and sugar must be such and such an amount in order to equalize the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad. This is the sphere of a tariff board under the most favorable conditions, with all politics, personal bias and pecuniary interests eliminated.

But is it not clear that the board has not touched nad cannot touch the vital question now at issue? That question is: Shall we continue to levy burdens, some taxes on the people in order to continue the raising of wool and cane under unfavorable conditions? Or shall we remit the tax and permit the wool growers and the sugar men to give their attention to things for which the country is better adapted? Suppose the tariff board should investigate those experimental tea farms in North Carolina where it would find that it cost $1 a pound to produce tea that can be bought in China for 20 cents. The board could only recommend that a duty of 80 cents be placed on tea. But even a protectionist would admit that it was absurd to place such a duty on a commodity of general use for the sake of two tea farm in North Carolina. That is an extreme case? Granted. But who is to determine, except the people themselves, when an industry is of sufficient importance to warrant a sacrifice on the part of the whole country in order to put it on its feet?

The wool and sugar industries are stagnant, in spite of high protection for many years; and the wool men and the cane men declare it will kill their business if this high protection be removed. Possibly they may have to engage in other lines. That is for them to say. No board of experts can determine that question for them. It is possible that land has become so scarce in this country that it does not supply economical sheep pasturage. It may be that sugar cane cannot be raised in Louisiana, where planting is required every two years, and frosts are frequent, in competition with Cuba, where cane is planted once in 19 or 20 years and frosts never come. The only way to determine is to submit to open competition. If under free conditions the Louisiana planter and the western rancher find that other crops pay better they will turn to them and leave sugar growing and wool raising to countries better adapted for the purpose.

A tariff board may be able to determine the difference in the cost of production in this country and abroad and fix an equalizing rate of duty; but it cannot tell us whether or not we should tax 90,000,000 users of wool and sugar for the benefit of a few thousands engaged in their production. This is a matter of public policy, a matter of fundamental principle, and must be left for decision not to the few thousands, but to the 90,000,000.

There is an assumption on the part of the tariff beneficiaries that only those actually engaged in the business are qualified to pass on the question; and they feel outraged that congress should presume to pass on the question without giving them a hearing. But what god could come of another hearing? We have had hearings, time and again; and it is always the same story, told by the same paid experts sent to Washington for the purpose. The consumers have no lobby there and they send no paid attorneys to testify in their behalf. They can only depend upon the good faith of their representatives in congress; and there is not one of those representatives, knowing enough to go in when it rains, who does not know now what the people want.

No, the tariff in its present stage is not a question of rates and schedules, but a matter of principle, and public hearings and the findings of tariff boards would merely cloud the issue. When the question has been fought out on principle and definitely settled, then, and not till then, will there be a place for a board of experts.

It was customary before our Civil war for certain states to appoint commissions to investigate the conditions of slaves, and to determine whether they were properly fed, housed and treated. And those commissions recommended minimum rations, and limited the arbitrary authority of the master. But they never touched the question as to whether or not the man should remain a slave.

A FIGHT FOR DIRECT PRIMARIES

From the Reiew of Reviews.

There are many thoughtful men who find serious objections to the primary-election plan of nominating candidates. This new method certainly presents some serious difficulties. But it seems to be the only available means by which to take the control of the government of New York out of the hands of inner rings of professional politicians whose partisanship is only a blind for their promotion of improper private aims. The question before the people is not, in fact, one of theories about constitutional government or political mechanism. It is simply a fight between the bosses and their machines on the one hand, and the citizens of the state who desire good government on the other hand. When good government wins its fight, there will be plenty of time in which to study the merits of different kinds of nominating methods and electoral machinery. The present legislature of New York has been one of the most shamelessly subservient in the history of the United States. A good primary law ought to have the result of putting men of independent convictions, high intelligence, and upright character into the assembly and senate at Albany.

It is true that the present legislature has permitted a number of meritorious bills to become laws. Most members of this one, as of all legislative bodies, are well disposed towards many right things, whenever they are in a position that gives them freedom of action. Reform measures are almost invariably prepared outside of the legislature; and they are brought to a successful conclusion through the support of newspapers and public opinion. Obviously the bosses wish to curry favor whenever they can, and they try to obscure their own misdeeds by giving support to good things that do not greatly intrench upon their prerogatives. But the struggle for direct primaries is an attack upon their control of politics and government. They will do all that they can to confuse the issue and to discredit Governor Sulzer. But he has risen to the emergency, and he has a good chance to win a victory.

William Sulzer, governor, found out in a very short time that his popular ways would avail nothing at Albany unless he were ready to blink at the current game or become a silent partner in it. Three courses were open to him: He could quit being an honest man and become a rogue; he could resign; he could fight. Fortunately he was not tempted to fall in with the game of the crooks and corruptionists. Being an honest man, he was limited to the alternatives of resigning or fighting. He decided, of course, that he must fight, and in this he was heartily supported by a very sensible and right-minded wife. Among other things that he speedily discovered was the fact that so far as results went there seemed to be just two members of the legislature, those being the two heads of the Democratic and Republican organizations of the state; and as regards every matter that involved vital reform these two forces were acting together.

When a man stands up in the state of New York to fight against the political machines that are held together by the cohesive power of plunder, he must not expect to be treated with courtesy or personal deference. Theodore Roosevelt, in making such fights, has braved every kind of slander and vilification. Charles E. Hughes was the target of unmeasured ridicule and abuse. William Sulzer could not expect to be exempt where Roosevelt and Hughes had to face the methods of despearate spoilsmen and corrupt conspirators.

The Veteran's Vision.

By Wex Jones.

The vale is bright with flowers. It is
Nature's deathless way
Of honoring the nameless graves on
Decoration day.
And well may man remember that the
scars he leaves must yield
To the flowers that spring so silently
from every stricken field.
The veteran looks across the vale; it
fades upon his view * * *

He sees again the battlefield; the comrades that he knew.

The eye of memory has pierced the
curtain of the years * * *

He sees again the day of strife: the
time of blood and tears.

Shell shriek their imprecation; cannon
like wild beasts roar;
The blade is bloody to the hilt; the
bayonet drips gore.
Age falls, with Youth beside it, for
Death is taking titles,
As in its mortal grapple a wounded
nation writhes.
* * * * * *
The vision slowly vanishes; the valiant
phantoms pass;
And only wave in peaceful ranks the
pennons of the grass.
Blossoms bedeck the battlefield and,
far more bright than they,
The flower of unity blows sweet this
Decoration day.

Promoters of Man-Fights.

From the San Francisco Bulletin.

One of the charges against the German armament manufacturers is that they spent large sums of money in France stirring up an anti-Teutonic propaganda. This kept business moving in the fatherland and was looked on in the light of legitimate commercial promotion. Sporting gentlemen who induce roosters and dogs to fight are arrested, fined and sometimes locked up in jail. That is as it should be. But what will the civilized world say of the big business that secretly induces two great nations to hate each other, perhaps engage in a war that may well nigh wreck civilization? Here greed seems to have reached its limit. But the promoter of dog fights goes to jail and the promoter of man fights enjoys honors, prestige and fame.

Experience is said to be the best teacher, yet there are men who marry three or four times.

"Going It Blind"

We Americans are given credit for doing a great many things in haste; and our mothers and grandmothers used to tell us constantly, among the other good, old-fashioned admonitions, that "haste makes waste."

Is not this peculiarly true of most of us when we do our shopping? Do we not fail to give the subject of our year-in, year-out purchases all the intelligent thought and consideration due so important a matter?

And do we not, as a result of this habit, buy many things unwisely, things which aren't just right and which might have given far greater satisfaction if they had been decided upon with thrifty forethought?

It is on this account that we urge our readers the importance and economy of being well posted on the daily offerings of our advertisers.

One can not only plan one's expenditures with greater economy but can also make better and more satisfactory selections than when "going it blind."