

THE JOURNAL

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ways and furnished to travelers for motive purpose. While the colonel did not say so, it is possible that his plan also contemplates keeping the copper net on the road surface long enough to dry it off entirely.

The colonel's scheme may contain a practical germ. Who knows?

MR. TAFT'S LATEST

ADVOCATING the appointment rather than the election of judges and their tenure for life, ex-President Taft declared at Montreal Tuesday that whatever benefit may inure from the elective system promises to be lost through the more general adoption of direct nominations.

Mr. Taft is to be admired for his courage, even though condemned for his convictions. It was very largely the Taft resistance to direct primaries and like reforms, that enabled Theodore Roosevelt to split the Republican party in the middle in 1912.

In spite of that disaster, ex-President Taft is still denouncing the initiative and referendum as government by the mob, and condemning direct primaries as an ineffective process of nominations.

It is well that he was not re-elected to the presidency. He is hopelessly committed to old processes, and seems determined not to permit successful experience with new forms to induce him to change his views.

In spite of the claims of Mr. Taft as to the efficacy of appointing judges, there is hardly a case of scandal in the whole history of the elective judiciary that approximates the infamy of Archbald, appointed by Mr. Taft and impeached recently by the senate.

Largely through Mr. Cleveland's efforts and principally because of his revelations, New York now employs a semblance of business methods in city affairs. The fusion board of estimate and apportionment has reduced the cost to the city of coal, grain, meats, fish and many other necessary commodities.

A proper wagon road along the Columbia would give to points along the way their opportunity to reap the full benefit of their natural advantages. Already, these points are mostly well equipped with roads leading into back country.

The present road down the Columbia, say from Goble, largely follows the route laid out by the cow paths, the deer trails, the trapper, the loggers, the acts of providence, and the slips of accident. It is a road without design or intelligence or efficiency.

A sample is one point where the road leaves the river a distance of five miles, then runs five miles parallel with the river, after which it returns five miles to the river, requiring the traveler by the detour to journey 15 miles to go ahead five miles.

There is to be effort to give the cities along this route an opportunity to get the benefit of their natural location by undertaking the construction of a Columbia highway. The sum of \$15,000 is needed for the survey, and the conditions are such that the money must be raised by private subscription.

It is a constructive plan by which to make convenience, facility and better conditions for the thousands who live along the river and the thousands who have occasion to journey along the river. The Journal is willing to do more than its part to help the movement along.

It will do more. It will contribute \$500 toward the survey fund provided that the full \$15,000 be raised.

THATCHER'S SCHEME In connection with the agitation for good roads and scenic highways, the question arises will there ever be a scheme devised to overcome the barrier of the snows of winter in order that our mountain ranges may be crossed the year around.

Colonel C. W. Thatcher, the good roads enthusiast who draws public attention to himself and his evangelic work by driving across the continent in a dilapidated spring wagon drawn by a span of mules, thinks he has found a plan.

ment is democracy's weakest point. Problems and evils arising in large centers of population threaten to break down our system, and it is to prevent this that municipal government is being studied as a detached science.

Among the speakers engaged for the Portland meetings is Frederick A. Cleveland, chairman of the bureau of efficiency and economy created to solve some of the national capital's problems. Mr. Cleveland is recognized as the foremost leader of a movement for efficiency and economy in city, state and national governments.

Out of \$80,000,000 spent by New York in salaries, \$12,000,000 was wasted through collusion, idleness and inefficiency. In the purchase of \$15,000,000 worth of supplies, \$5,000,000 was worse than wasted. New York took millions of dollars worth of goods into stores without holding anybody to account.

The jingoes are reduced to desperate straits for toxin material, with the entire world at peace except Mexico and—New York.

No wonder the police are unable to locate Roosevelt's missing watch fob, when the colored thief persists in keeping dark.

Letters From the People (Communications sent to the Journal for publication in this department should be on one side of the paper, should not exceed 200 words in length, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The writer does not desire to have his name published, he should so state.)

"Discussion is the greatest of all reformers. It rationalizes everything it touches. It rids principles of all false security and throws them back on their reasonableness. If they have no reasonableness it ruthlessly crushes them out of existence, and sets up new conclusions in their stead."—Woodrow Wilson.

Western Canada. Beaverton, Or., Sept. 2, 1913.—To the Editor of the Journal—I have been reading the letters published in the Journal regarding the conditions in western Canada, and will say that I agree entirely with Mrs. Watson. I had heard so much about the good times, big wages, plenty of land for everybody, that I went to Canada, determined to get my own experience about it.

The success of the system is a message of encouragement to cities everywhere. Out of the extraordinary profits of the enterprise, there have been betterments of the system, betterments that in the past two years totaled \$45,000. The big revenues have been the means by which the system has made the extensions of mains and other improvements to serve a population that has more than doubled if not almost tripled since the water system was installed.

Under the enabling act by which the system was authorized, the revenue next year must be reduced by readjustment of water rates so as to cover actual running expenses, pay an annual interest of \$3750, and provide a sinking fund for the gradual retirement of the \$75,000 of five per cent 40 year bonds.

It is doubtful if there is a city in the world that can point to a municipal investment more successful. The water comes from the rocky bottom of a deep and thickly wooded canyon half way up the sides of Marys peak, 15 miles from the city. It has stood all the tests as to purity, and is the sweet, wholesome beverage sought alike by brute and human.

Its splendid financial success is good tidings to mankind. It is a message of hope to civilization. It is unanswerable proof of the possibility of divorcing the distribution of water from the extortionate graft so often imposed upon it.

It is example of how, under municipal ownership through efficient processes, it is possible to give water to consumers at a cost so low that it is both a benison and a boon.

In Corvallis, the water system has been one factor in the remarkable growth in population. Post-office receipts for the month of August were 28 per cent above the same month last year. The increase for July was 23 per cent, and these increases have been the rule in Corvallis almost constantly since the splendid system of pure water from the mountains was installed.

ROSE FESTIVALS A NEW organization is to grapple the problem of next year's Rose Festival.

that, Gotham women will be debarred from heaven for wearing the new fangled skirts, but ought to know that they would doubtless consider heaven as hopelessly passe.

A London doctor has asked why there are no bald headed women, and the Baltimore Sun replies that it may be because one cannot tell which is switch.

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Its burden is heavy, but its opportunity is unprecedented. There is a growing caravan of summer visitors to the Pacific coast. The Panama canal year is close at hand. Pacific coast cities are on the threshold of a new and extraordinary commercial epoch.

There should be festivals to match. The enlarged horizon of the coast should make it easy to make the festivals of unusual and varied fullness.

It should be easy to provide a festival next year to far excel any past effort.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE Usual hop-picking weather. O, it will clear up soon; keep smiling. Let it will be fine weather for the fall.

Bad for the hops and prunes, but fine for the spuds and pastures. How difficult to draw the line between genius and insanity!

Let many perturbed male souls give devout thanks for the rain; just now, at least, X-ray skirts won't agonize their tender consciences.

Senator Lewis made a fine reply to Senator O'Connell who opposed the income tax. It's worth reading and re-reading. There's something besides fancy clothes about Lewis.

Aviator Pegaud did a great trick, and many imitators will be killed in consequence. But it's not so many people in low as well as high offices are the recipients of multitudes of such letters, as they report, is improbable. This seems to have become nearly as common a method of personal advertisement as the theft of very valuable jewelry.

By Labret St. Clair in Colliers. After almost 20 years of obscurity the real man behind the weather bureau in Washington has been ferreted out by President Wilson and placed at its head. He is Charles Frederick Marvin.

Under the old spoils system it is doubtful if Marvin ever would have been the chief of the bureau. He is a man of his own party, and he admits that if he were forced to go out and round up another vote besides his own, he probably would have a desperate time.

When his name went to the senate there was some scurrying around among the politicians to learn something of his political affiliations. He wore no collar, and any party that was getting some conjecture about how he came to land the job. Finally it occurred to some astute statesman that perhaps Marvin had done something for science which the present chief of the bureau had not done. He was a man of his own party, and he admits that if he were forced to go out and round up another vote besides his own, he probably would have a desperate time.

President Wilson in fact found Marvin by asking the National Academy of Science to recommend a man to head the bureau. Four nominations were made, and a committee selected Marvin. Then the president, without discerning whether Marvin wore a silver-gray hat in the campaign of 1896 or wore a gold bug in his coat lapel, or sang the "Houlihan" song last year, nominated him.

Since 1884, when he was a part of the signal corps, Marvin has been a member of it. He has invented instruments for measuring and automatically recording rainfall, snowfall, sunshine, atmospheric pressure, and evaporation. At other times, when he had a few leisure hours on hand, he made extensive studies of and wrote on the use of kites for ascertaining meteorological conditions in the free air, the registration of earthquakes, the measurement of evaporation, solar radiation, temperature with electrical resistance thermometers, and a few things like that. His instruments are in use in almost every weather bureau in the United States.

The new chief was born in Putnam, Ohio, in 1858. Putnam is on the map, but not in the Postal Guide. Folks which is continually crucified under the same kind of law. The "officials of the mass" constantly is perpetuated by the Romish church, is a celebrated memorial of a universal fact. The masses are always sacrificed for the benefit of robbers and rulers. This is the curse the people in whatever country they are, rejected Christ and demanded the release of Barabbas. They have had Barabbas in power ever since, and if they are not satisfied they have only themselves to blame. J. L. JONES.

United States Land Offices. Macksburg, Or., Sept. 1.—To the Editor of the Journal—Will you kindly inform me whether the land office of this part of the valley is at Portland or Oregon City. Also where the office is which covers Lane county and Coos and Curry counties.

Importance of the Editorial. From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Senator Bruce of California inserted in the Congressional Record an editorial of 24 lines from a Los Angeles newspaper. It was a long and a debate which filled several columns of the Record, which cost the taxpayers thousands of dollars and accomplished no useful purpose.

Now in Session. Clackamas, Or., Sept. 2.—To the Editor of the Journal—When did congress hold its last session and for what purpose was it held? READER.

Do It Legally. Estacada, Or., Sept. 1.—To the Editor of the Journal—it is interesting to note the plow regulations the ruling classes always take when they want to commit a crime against the public, to do it legally. It is much more comfortable for a poor devil to be robbed or murdered, than to have his duties performed without due regard for the law. A deliberate and dignified procedure in such matters tends to keep the victims resigned to their fate, which they attribute to providence rather than to the oppressor.

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Governor Sulzer is conspicuously slow in following the example of a number of other governors who have extended recognition to Acting Governor Glynn of New York.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

The Morning Democrat of Baker hands the following bouquet to a fortunate citizen: "Gladie Valley is certainly the land of fine fruit, vegetables, alfalfa and sleek cattle. Its people are courageous and generous, and its people are a visit there is the joy of one's life."

We are told by the Fossil Journal that Maxey Hayes was out hunting in a pasture on Thirtymile when he saw what he took to be the head of an owl, half-way up a big pine tree. He blazed away at the object with his shotgun, but was surprised to see a young cougar, about five feet long, come tumbling down and drop dead at his feet.

The Burns Times-Herald quotes William Hanley as authority for the statement that a quartet of Oregon officials—Governor West, Secretary Olcott, Treasurer Kay and Game Warden Flinn—have all expressed a desire to attend a rabbit drive in Harney county. Mr. Hanley suggests that the Burns Rod and Gun club take up the matter and have all expressed a desire to attend, inviting these officials to participate.

While untrammelled by Tammany, Corvallis nevertheless boasts of a bunch of Baby Tigers who went through the last baseball season without a single defeat, according to the Daily Times-Gazette. The Baby Tigers are now planning to organize a football team, and are equipped with the town with the requisite tags, in order that they may properly uphold the honor of Corvallis.

That sounds well, and town pride is an admirable thing, but the chief of the bureau really has nothing whatever to do with the forecasting. Instead of brooding up a window, casting his eyes about the rustling rain and swiftness of birds rolling in the dust, and taking a peep at a barometer every night before he goes home in order that he may guess for the United States, he sits at his desk and takes the word of five expert forecasters in different parts of the country. Of course, he does not have to believe them, or even record their guesses. As blame for a poor forecast falls on him, he gives the lay guesser, if he wants it. On one notable occasion the chief preceding the inauguration of Mr. Taft in 1899, Chief Willis L. Moore saw fit to make his own forecast.

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WILSON'S SUCCESS

From the Seattle Times. It is still early in the administration to advance any general views concerning the future of the Democratic executive and his party. There are still big issues before him and he will have a courageous disposition to confront them all, in their regular order.

Moreover, it is a ticklish and thankless task to predict three years in the future of American politics. So many contingencies may arise of which there is no hint today that the prophet may find himself a butt of ridicule, instead of an acclaimed seer, almost before the ink is dry on the printed sheet.

At the same time no just critic can deny that to a president President Wilson has handled the problems of his administration with a consummate skill that warrants more general public confidence than was accorded him at the time of his election.

He has selected his cabinet with admirable judgment. Only one member of it has been under fire and that one, according to gossip at the time of his induction into office, was the only vulnerable spot in the array.

He has maintained the peace with that old master of Democracy—Bryan—and together they have worked harmoniously along lines that have met with the country's approval.

In breaking established precedents, such as reading his messages directly to congress, he essayed an innovation to this age—and innovations are always perilous for politicians—but the results have proved favorable rather than unfavorable.

He has obtained a strong hold on the majority in congress and although the speaker and the majority leader in the house were both his opponents at Baltimore, he has found in that body consistent support for his tariff and currency policies.

He has permitted his secretaries to map out and carry into effect liberal policies that have proved distinctly acceptable to the west, and they have handled their duties with sufficient capableness not to arouse antagonism in the east.

While the Japanese negotiations have been kept secret, there is little doubt that he averted a crisis by a display of diplomacy of a high order.

With his conduct of the Mexican situation, he has shown a present awareness. There has been little in his policy that could be classed as sensational, but it has proved acceptable to the people.

These are triumphs of no mean order. To ascribe them to good fortune alone would be distinctly unjust. His administration is yet young, but it is only fair to say that it has opened most auspiciously.

Pointed Paragraphs And many a man who tries to live right gets left. A little learning is almost as dangerous as a little wisdom. Theory is all right in its way, but it won't wash dishes. Blessed is the woman who can get along on a short allowance. Many a woman has been able to reform a man by keeping him guessing. One enemy will give a man more free advertising than a dozen friends. When she expresses a wish her husband usually has to pay the freight. Anyway, a married man doesn't have to worry; he knows the worst. A soft answer never turns away a book agent.

Consider the innocent babe in its crib; it tolls not, neither does it spin, yet it growth like the interest on a promissory note. One-Cabin Steamships. From the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. A number of Atlantic liners are planning to operate on the so-called "one-cabin" steamships, most properly "one class." The Hamburg-American line tried the experiment with a vessel having no distinctive department, such as first, second and third class. All cabins were listed the same and the passengers in all of them enjoyed common advantages, although there was a distinction in the prices paid for the cabins.

The experiment proved satisfactory and the new departure became instantly popular. The agents asserted that when the experiment was first made they could have sold four times as much space as was available on each voyage. There were nearly a score of vessels under construction on this plan.

Americans of moderate means will not practice economies, when such economies result in classifying them as something a little lower than the best. They will not travel second class, not because of any serious objections to the accommodations provided, but because while they were traveling second class other people travel first class and are thus set apart in a superior class, with larger privileges on shipboard.

The one-cabin plan permits the practice of economy, when needed, without loss of "face" and without confession of an inferior social or financial status. To the closest philosopher the sentiment on the subject looks extremely silly; but it exists, and the steamship companies have found sound sense in catering to it. The steamship companies which are catering to it will get the bulk of the business of the Americans of moderate means who desire to travel abroad, who cannot afford to pay for "de luxe" apartments and yet who refuse to permit themselves to be set apart as "second class" in any respect.

Not a Fairy Story Once upon a time there was a shrewd person who wanted his business proposition to reach a very influential man. He could not get to see him in person, but he learned that he was a constant reader of a certain newspaper. So the man who wanted something wrote an advertisement stating his proposition and words in the way of a letter would appear to the ONE MAN. He put it in a prominent place in the newspaper read by the ONE MAN. He kept it there and before many days rolled around it had just what he hoped would be brought him to the attention of the customer. Both profited—for this is a true advertisement. Now the point to you lies in the fact that there is probably some advantage in the advertising of today, that is, that is written expressly to you. Are you a reader of the advertisement? Do you can catch the message? It may be important.