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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON .....Publisher

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> If I do not keep step with my companions, it is because I hear a different drummer. Let a man step to the music he hears, however measured or however far away.—Thoreau.

KEEP OREGON FREE

THE union label agreement between State Printer Harris and the Allied Printing Trades of Salem should be declared void.

The right of workers to organize for their own advancement and protection is self evident. That wage earners would be ground down to a smaller and smaller wage without organization is true.

But unionized labor must not expect to seize and brand the state. The commonwealth of Oregon has a right to be free. It ought not to be required to wear any man's brand or any organization's label.

Let labor unionize and let it get every reasonable concession and reward to which an honest service gives it title.

But let us not turn over the state of Oregon to any society, association or organization to be branded and collared like a dependent. Let the state remain a free state. Let her remain a sovereign state. Let her remain an "unowned" state.

Let Oregon remain the inalienable sovereignty of all the people.

Let her remain in position to do for all labor what the unions have done for organized labor.

THE YOUNG TURKS

TURKEY has gone through some violent experiences during the past two years. There have been ravages by war, cholera, poverty and changes in government, and yet the United States consul general at Constantinople says the Young Turks have steadily pursued their purpose of effecting internal reforms.

Bridges have been built, streets widened and paved, whole blocks of business buildings erected, several public parks opened and electric cars introduced. The old method of getting rid of refuse by throwing it to the street dogs has been supplanted by a modern organization of uniformed men employed as a sanitary force. Automatic sprinklers and revolving brooms keep the streets clean.

All this happened in the midst of demoralization caused by a disastrous war and by an epidemic which carried off hundreds of thousands of people. It would be a remarkable record even under advantageous circumstances, but, in view of the handicaps the Young Turks encountered, their accomplishments have been marvelous. It is possible that the Turks now in control are not so bad as they have been painted. They are evidently able and willing to learn.

An American syndicate has offered Turkey a loan of $120,000,000 on condition that the syndicate receives an important timber and railroad concession in Asia Minor. The consul general's report may contain the explanation of this offer. The Young Turks seem to be taking on civilization, a fact which the timid dollar accepts as a guarantee of safety.

DOLLAR OR MAN?

OREGON CITY is in the midst of an agitation for a mountain water supply.

The present source of supply is the Willamette river. A filtering plant of modern design purports to provide average purity. There are, however, many people in Oregon City who insist that a filtering system is not always dependable and that whenever there chances to be a lapse in its efficiency consumers are drawing their water supply direct from the great sewer of the Willamette valley.

The Pure Mountain Water league is an organization which heads the movement for a gravity water system for the city. From contributions of its members it has financed a survey of the head waters of the Clackamas as a probable source of supply. The engineer reports that perfectly pure water can be delivered to consumers in Oregon City through a pipe line 26.1 miles in length, and at a total cost of $300,000. The league proposes a bond issue to cover the cost, and points to the fact that the system could be put into operation in about one year from the beginning of work on the pipe line. A proposed special election for voting bonds is a part of the plan.

It is almost inconceivable that Oregon City will reject such a program. Such water at such a moderate cost would seem to be reason for the city to jump at the chance and be grateful that it is in position to place itself alongside other Oregon cities with a perfectly pure water supply.

No argument can be offered against the plan. The 20 dead and the more than 300 typhoid patients at Centralia answer all arguments against pure water supply. There is no perpetually pure supply but a gravity system which brings its flowing water straight from the heart of the mountains.

How can any city justify itself in accepting inferior water?

How can any city defend itself for using questionable water when absolutely pure water can be had for a very small if any advance in cost?

How can any city afford to pay 10, or 25, or 50 cents a month increase in water cost against the health and lives of human beings?

How can any city excuse itself for playing a dollar against a man?

WHY THE IDLE?

NO WONDER there are unemployed. The public's own foreshore is absorbed and then sold back to the public at $864 per front foot as in the Reid dock site, or at $876 per front foot as in the Pacific Milling & Elevator site.

Unemployment is made by the economies that have to be practiced in order to raise the money for paying these great prices, such for instance as $310,000 for the Pacific Milling & Elevator site, including the more than $20,000 commission for Ferd Reed and the $18,500 attorney fee for Mr. Fulton.

These great drains contract the paying power of the people. The public tolls exacted in one form or another weaken the people by sapping their resources. They force contraction of expenditures, and contraction of expenditures means fewer workers employed and more men driven into idleness.

It is the parasites sucking the blood out of the public through extortionate prices for land, or through seizure of public waterfront and selling it back to the people at dizzy prices, that press down the crown of thorns upon the brow of workers. It is parasitical absorption of public usufruct without giving anything back; it is the denial by courts of information to a jury needed to fix a true price for property which the public requires, that helps to swell the army of the unemployed.

One of the best ways to help the honest idle is to cut away the grafts of those who absorb but do not earn.

AEROPLANES FOR NAVY

SECRETARY DANIELS has recommended that the government establish an aeronautic school and training station at Pensacola as a means for increasing the navy's strength. He acted on the advice of a board appointed some time ago to study military and naval aviation and outline a policy for the United States.

The board says that the American army and navy will suffer in comparison with those of other powers if they are denied the advantages which the aeroplane and the dirigible afford. This board calls attention to the fact that while America is the aeroplane's birthplace, the flying machine has been developed during the last ten years principally in Europe.

Great Britain has 23 flying machines for its army and six for its navy; France has 259 machines, Germany has 42 and Japan 10. Two years ago England's expenditure for military and naval aviation was more than $1,500,000; France, more than $6,000,000; Germany, $1,500,000; Russia, nearly $5,000,000, while the United States expended only $140,000. Since then European nations have increased their appropriations for this purpose, but the United States has made relatively slight additions.

These figures do not necessarily indicate the relative interest taken in aviation. Their significance probably lies in the fact that the flying machine has reached its highest development in Europe because of militarism. Aviation has not reached commercial importance. If the aeroplane were available as a money making device America would not be lagging behind.

A LITERACY TEST

A CAMPAIGN against the Burnett literacy test immigration bill pending in congress has been inaugurated by the American Association of Foreign Language Newspapers. Assistance in opposing the bill is asked on the ground that a similar bill was vetoed by former President Taft and his veto was sustained by the last congress.

The foreign language newspapers have an organization comprising 610 publications in the United States. Their aggregate circulation is over 7,000,000 copies, and these papers use 29 different languages. It is urged that the alien who wishes to come to America should not be blamed if his father or his country did not give him the advantage of an education; that the alien should not be excluded for that reason.

There is no attempt to blame the alien for his present condition, but there is a demand that the United States pick its immigrants. The days of unrestricted immigration are numbered, for there is general agreement that if America is to go forward as she should along social and industrial lines, the attempt must be made to cement rather than disintegrate her people.

If the United States aspired for mere numbers, there would be no occasion for any sort of an immigration law. A literacy test does not necessarily determine a man's character, but it does fix his ability to acquire the necessary knowledge for becoming a real American.

It is not to the interest of America to keep her ports open to people who for years must remain unassimilated.

OUR EIGHT HOUR LAW

SOME Portland firemen are contributing money to help Labor Commissioner Hoff secure enforcement of the eight hour law in the Portland fire department.

The change would add more than $1,000,000 to the cost of the Portland fire patrol. Instead of one, it would require three shifts of men if not a fourth to meet the requirements as to a six day week.

There isn't a city in the United States that provides more than a twelve hour or two shift day. There is not believed to be a city in the world that provides the unheard-of arrangement imposed by the Oregon eight hour law.

If the Portland firemen succeed in fastening an additional million and a quarter to the tax collections of Portland through this law, it will doubtless have for a sequel a big movement for repeal of the measure.

What is the use anyway of having a measure to prevent employes of the state from overworking themselves? What is the use of making a codfish aristocracy of state employes, most of whom are already notoriously and woefully scant on adequate service?

What is the use, anyway, of adding hundreds of thousands of dollars to the cost of government in Oregon to make a petted class of public employes by increasing the burden and drudgery of private employes?

ITALIAN PEOPLE'S BANKS

BEATING the loan shark has become a vital issue in American cities. Remedial loan associations have this end in view, and recently a group of financiers announced their intention to establish a chain of banks for financing industrial workers who do not have credit at banks established primarily for business men.

Italy's experience with "people's banks" illuminates the problem, showing that it is possible to establish credit for the average poor man as a strict business proposition. An article in Harper's Magazine tells of the birth of Italy's idea in 1865 and the growth of a strong group of banks in various cities, owned by poor people and used chiefly to furnish loans to industrial workers.

These banks invite the membership of everybody, from the line of real poverty to the edge of wealth. They are formed with limited liability and the issue of shares is unrestricted. The borrower has opportunity to become a banker through purchase of stock at prices not more than $10 and often as low as $4. Business is largely done on personal surety, by the endorsement of one or two men for another.

From these Italian banks groups of workingmen, without capital of their own, are able to obtain funds to finance profitable contracts. Groups of workers, without capital of their own, have been able to contract for the construction of government railways, public highways and city building projects. The great railway terminal at Milan is being constructed by artisans who have contracted with the government, paying their weekly wages and purchasing materials with money advanced by their own bank.

The small shopkeeper who sees an opportunity to increase his income by the purchase of additional fixtures or machinery can get the money from these popular banks. A few dollars will make him a stockholder in a bank, and a reputation for industry and integrity will permit him to borrow.

Only three of Italy's people's banks have failed in forty years. The banks pay regular dividends to their stockholders, but the biggest return to the people is the influence exerted upon workmen. They are taught the risks of capital as well as the value of cooperative industry.

Judge O'Day proves by the constitution, by democratic traditions from Jefferson to Wilson, by the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments and by other authorities that West went wrong at Copperfield. The Oregonian convinces itself by laws, statutes and the proceedings of the 1913 legislature that the governor should have used the broken-backed 1913 statute to clean up Copperfield. Soul Mate Moser agrees with it all, and there you are. But meanwhile, Copperfield is dry; the children of the town are no longer made drunk; the gambling is ended; Colonel Lawson put an end to the reign of arson; a court has held that the governor was within the law and more headway has been made in teaching enforcement of law and dealing with lawlessness than could have been achieved with thimblerigging lawyers and spineless officials in ten years.

There are many theories about the unemployed. Many embryo statesmen and sociologists have pet explanations. How about the unemployment incident to the $136,000 spent for flowers at the recent funeral of a rich brewer? How about the unemployed that could have been given work for the great sums spent in New Year's eve orgies?

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.)

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

From a Working Workingman.

Lents, Or., Jan. 24.—To the Editor of The Journal—As I am a constant reader of your paper, I ask you to publish this letter to show our friend whose letter appeared in The Journal Wednesday under the caption "Sarcastic." What experience I have had with the common laboring class on railroad construction in the past seven years convinces me that there is no reason why a single man should be unemployed in Portland, nor any justification for the 150 who started for Eugene, depending on charity to help them. All last summer men could not be had. There were plenty of them coming and going, staying long enough to get a meal and then off to Portland, where they could get 25 cents a day more, while $2.50 a day for 10 hours was the wage at our camp. I know for sure there were at least 1200 men on the payroll in eight months, and there was never a crew of over 60 men at one time. The camp was clean, the meals good, the work clean and dry. I am just a common laborer and am not boosting myself. I have seen 20 men come from Eugene, on free fare, every other day. These men would get their supper and breakfast, and then be off to Portland. I have known of six bunches coming and out of 120 men just three stuck on the job and two of these were mere boys whom I persuaded to stay. I have seen 30 to 40 men come into camp, some of whom had the uppers of their shoes, but no soles; others no stockings, or no shirts save an undershirt. I have been stung to the tune of $9 in one month by taking pity on these parasites, standing good for them at the camp commissary so the poor, big healthy sloths could get out to work next morning, only to find they had gone after breakfast. I, for one, will cheerfully say the saloons are not alone to blame for the condition of these bums. There should be a law passed making it worth 60 days on the rockpile for anyone to give these men a free meal or a "poke out," as they call it. That's what makes tramps—the free lunches.

Should I ever have a railroad contract there wouldn't be a floater on the job, but foreigners only. You can depend on them after a payday. They will wash or boil up on Sundays, but the Americans, never. You will always find their bunkhouses in a filthy condition, but the foreigners are clean and free from vermin. I would like to hear anyone speak one good word of the floater as a laborer. It is grumble and kick, then the second or third day, as soon as he is filled up, down the track he goes, with his bed mate's blankets that he was generous enough to let the tramp share with him. I could put those 150 men who are tramping southward on a piece of work at $3 per day and 8 hours' work, and I can take oath that there wouldn't be one man of the 150 on the job in 30 days—no, nor in two weeks.

Yes, help the poor bum. I have seen these parasites in benches along the railroad track under the shade of a tree, reading or playing cards, when the foreman in camp needed 20 to 30 men. At the sound of the dinner bell you would see the free lunch bums making for the dining cars, to crowd in and take the places of the men that had worked hard all day, and to fill their pockets so as to have enough to last them to the next camp. You will always hear the Greek, or any foreigner, complaining of his washing being stolen, but never the floater. He has none to wash, and it's the Burnside saloon bums who are always complaining about hard times, that do such things.

I am referring to railroad camps alone, including Oregon, Washington and Montana. They are all the same, wherever you go, and I know what I am talking about.

First stop the free meals, not only in Portland but everywhere; then stop booze and vice. Then you will get steady American men on the jobs.

A. M. R.

The Reed College Lectures.

Portland, Jan. 24.—To the Editor of The Journal—The Reed college lectures on "The Voter and the City of Portland" have attracted wide-spread interest, as they should. A correspondent writes to one of the Portland papers as follows:

"I have a strong opinion that the whole thing is a cunningly devised scheme of some sinister interest, including the ever-subtle liquor interest, to throw a little fine sand into the people's eyes. To give one instance, one chart showed that the greater part of the city's revenue comes from the liquor traffic but the chart that should have shown what the liquor traffic costs the taxpayer was cunningly omitted."

Permit me to state a few facts bearing on this question, not because anyone holding such a view is likely to have his opinion altered by facts, but because it is a good opportunity to show how wildly people jump at conclusions without a knowledge of facts, and furthermore, a good opportunity to call the attention of the public to a series of six lectures which every citizen should hear and may hear if he pleases. The interest of Reed college in the liquor traffic may be suggested by these facts:

The president of the college has repeatedly, in public addresses, emphasized the connection between the liquor traffic and prostitution as revealed by the reports of every vice commission.

The president of the college is a total abstainer, as a matter of principle, and has used his influence on every occasion against the liquor traffic.

The Reed college campus is the largest area in the city of Portland where the consumption of liquor is not tolerated.

The Reed institute has declined to rent any of its various properties for any kind of liquor traffic although it could increase its revenues by so doing.

The students of Reed college under the direction of the department of social ethics, prepared a map of the city of Portland showing the location of every saloon and every arrest for drunkenness for a given period and exhibited this chart at the Reed college conference on the conservation of human life as evidence of the pernicious influence of the saloon in Portland.

This map with other evidence of the waste and crime due to the liquor traffic is presented in lantern slides in the closing lecture of the very course to which the objection is raised. I quote from the lecture in question:

"The argument is advanced to the effect that the liquor business is necessary for the repletion of the public treasury. As a matter of fact, the revenue from liquor is spent for the maintenance of jails and courts to take care of the product of the traffic. If alongside of every billboard advertising liquor could be placed another stating the actual facts of the drain of the liquor traffic upon human lives, we might get somewhere. If, for example, the public knew that alcohol and syphilis are among the leading causes of feeble-mindedness, we might at least ask whether the traffic as now organized is a necessary evil."

As this course of six lectures on "The Voter and the City of Portland" is under suspicion, it is highly desirable that everyone should attend. The lectures are now being given every Monday evening at the Kenilworth Presbyterian church; every Tuesday evening at the Arleta school and at the Montavilla school; every Wednesday at 6:45 at the Young Women's Christian Association; every Thursday evening at the Sellwood Methodist Episcopal church.

The series has already been given at eight places, a total of 44 lectures. At every place the speaker has urged people to point out errors and to suggest improvements. We are still eager to make corrections and to improve the lectures.

FLORENCE M. READ,
Secretary of Reed Extension Courses.

Discussing Initiative Bills.

Roseburg, Or., Jan. 23.—To the Editor of The Journal—I am a believer in the initiative and referendum when it is used for the purposes for which it was intended, the initiative for the purpose of securing needed legislation which the legislature will not pass and for which there is a statewide demand, and the referendum as a safety on the legislature in cases of real importance. But they should not be used for initiating or referring some personal whim or pet subject as is done by A. D. Cridge, W. S. U'Ren and a few others, who are the real enemies of the initiative and referendum if they want to realize it.

I believe that the passage of ex-Senator Bourne's bill will cure much of this, as when there is a sufficient demand for some bill there will be no trouble in securing the necessary names to initiate or refer the given bill without the use of paid circulators.

There is one bill being initiated that the poor man and small taxpayer should not allow himself to be influenced into voting for, and that is Mr. Cridge's "$1500 exemption" measure. There is just a certain amount of money that has to be raised by taxation and if the larger taxpayer has to pay more tax, as he necessarily would under Mr. Cridge's bill, the grocer and dry goods merchant would all have to pay a considerably larger rents, and they in turn would raise the price of the necessities and the poor man would pay the bill. And the owners of apartments and cottages for rent would pay increased taxes and the poor man would still pay the bill. It would be of no benefit to the poor man whether the exemption is on real estate or just the improvements the same amount of money will have to be raised and the large taxpayer will make the small and poor man pay it indirectly and very likely with interest or profit added.

One bill being initiated that is worthy of the support of everyone is by C. S. Jackson of Portland with regard to the purchase of property for the public use. We have had one example in this town. A certain site in Roseburg was wanted for a high school and was offered by the owner for $1000, but the building was not built at that time. One year later a grade school was wanted in the same part of town and the school district was held up for $6000 for the same location, when the owner could not have sold the property for one third of the $6000 to anyone else, and it was assessed for less than $1500.

I have not seen the petitions for Mr. Jackson's bill here for circulation and I would be only too glad to circulate them for Douglas county free of charge.

W. V. G.

Central Real Estate Agency.

Aurora, Or., Jan. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—In the approaching spring easterners will come to Portland and some of them will invest their money in Oregon. It would be greatly beneficial to property sellers and buyers if Portland would establish a large real estate bureau, to which land sellers could send written descriptions of farm land for sale, describing the land, location, and the nearest route to take by rail, car or boat to such land. This city real estate office should assist every stranger to the right car, railroad or boat station, and advise the buyer so he could easily find the desired land. When a land deal is closed and recorded the land seller should pay 3 per cent commission of the sale price to the city real estate office. These commissions would pay most if not all expenses and salaries for officials. Such a real estate bureau would save hundreds of dollars to buyers and sellers of land, which now fills the pockets of many private real estate dealers who often make enormous profits of sales.

MRS. J. KNAPP.

Judge Bennett a Candidate?

Portland, Or., Jan. 24.—To the Editor of The Journal—I note among those mentioned as possibilities for the Democratic nomination for governor, A. S. Bennett, of The Dalles. I should like some of Judge Bennett's supporters to explain how they expect to elect him in 1914, when only in 1910 he write a public letter branding the present governor as a corporation man, and implying even worse things about him.

Lest we forget, let me quote from the letter:

"I have reason to believe that Mr. West is too close to the corporations, and that he is not in sympathy with progressive Democratic ideas.

"He went before the committee in the last legislature and lobbied in the interest of the corporations—and for this and other reasons, I do not believe him to be the proper man for Democratic candidate for the high office of governor.

"I think Mr. Myers on the contrary is thoroughly honest—."

That letter was sent broadcast by the Bowerman bunch over the state, and if I remember right was the hardest thing West had to go against. While Bennett had written it before the primary he never took any steps to prevent its use by the Republicans, and indeed, it was generally understood at the time that he was supporting Bowerman.

To think that the Democrats outregistered three to one could expect in 1914 to elect a man who could not even poll his own party vote. The Republicans have done some foolish things in Oregon in the past, but never anything more foolish than this proposal by some Democrats to nominate A. S. Bennett for governor. That would be the easiest way I know to elect to that office a Republican.

A DEMOCRAT.

A FEW SMILES

"This paper," said Languid Lewis, "tells about a horse runnin' away with a woman and she was laid up for six weeks."

"That ain't so worse," rejoined Boastful Benjamin. "A friend of mine once ran away with a horse and he was laid up for six years."

Constable — Come along; you've got to have a bath.

Tramp — A barf! What, wiv water?

Constable — Yes, of ccurse.

Tramp — Couldn't you manage it wiv one o' them vacuum cleaners?

Little Clarence—Paw!

Mr. Callipers—Well, my son?

Little Clarence—Paw, when a doctor is sick and calls in another doctor to doctor him, is the doctor doctored the way he wants to be doctored or does the doctor doctor him just as he thinks he ought to be doctored?

"And so," said the man who lives in a flat to his friend who is a commuter, "your next door neighbor, you say, is a real philanthropist."

"You bet he is," said the commuter enthusiastically; "why, he bought $10 worth of flower seeds for my chickens last spring."—Ladies' Home Journal.

The bride was overwhelmingly pleased with the progress she was making in cooking and hubby was always so encouraging and so kind in making excuses if by any chance she did make a little mistake when guests were present. This same opinion of her forbearing husband might have continued indefinitely had she not inadvertently made use of a bit of slang.

Noticing that Harry was a trifle downcast when the dinner was about half over, she exclaimed gaily: "Cheer up, Harry; the worst is yet to come!"

Her husband glanced up quickly, and with a despairing glance inquired: "What! have you made a pie?"—Ladies' Home Journal.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Almost every exceptionally successful man claims there is no such thing as luck.

• •

French people have not been caroling about their sunny and flowery land lately.

• •

J. Pluvius must have been preparing through recent weeks for a long vacation later.

• •

Lord Strathcona was very old, as measured by the average span of life, but will be missed; he was a great man.

• •

A publicly owned San Francisco street car line paid a large net profit last year—perhaps a hint to other cities.

• •

Some of the biggest dealers in old eggs have been fined heavily in Chicago, the court finding that they were also "bad eggs."

• •

In speaking of things given domestic animals to eat, be very careful never to say "feed," which is vulgar, but always "ration."

• •

Circuit Judge Anderson of Baker county doesn't read the Oregonian, or if he does he doesn't agree with it, in the Copperfield case. But he won't be recalled.

• •

Many Oregon people, especially fruit growers, have been hoping, if not praying, for colder weather for the last month. This will seem funny to people in many parts of the world.

• •

A suffragette threw a bag of flour at the secretary of state for Scotland while he was making a speech. She would better have thrown it at some famishing fellow out of a job.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Eugene's city council has just ordered the paving of 17 additional blocks, and the sale of $100,000 of water extension bonds.

• •

"If all the building schemes now in contemplation in Pendleton are carried out this year," says the East Oregonian, "the prodigal sons won't know the place when they come home."

• •

If they had not had the calendar to remind them it was still winter, the News says, some of Hood River's early gardeners might have had their seeds in the ground last week.

• •

A. Meresse of Forest Grove has bought the White Salmon Enterprise, the weekly newspaper at White Salmon, Wash. Mr. Meresse is a graduate of Pacific university and has had several years' experience in newspaper work.

• •

Lebanon Express: Old Oregonians are now ready to give approval to the assertion that climatic conditions in this state are becoming more of a conundrum each year and that the wisest of them are unable to foretell the future weather. Last week we had a great variety of weather and the wise prognosticator suggested that snow would follow so much sunshine but it has failed to appear.

• •

Retort most courteous in Marshfield Record, evoked by Corvallis Gazette-Times' ripe raspberry story: "On New Year's day roses were blooming in Marshfield; two days afterwards the people here were complaining the air was sultry. Flowers in many yards are abloom today. Wherever you look about Coos Bay you will see green grass growing. We have no ripe raspberries, but we are going some ourselves."

DEMOCRACY IN A BACKWARD COUNTRY

From the New York Globe.

The Portland Oregonian refuses to see similarity between the struggle in Mexico and the struggle of the Netherlands and of Switzerland and of this country to establish self-government.

It says that the Dutch, the Swiss and ourselves, both before and after the wars of revolution, have shown capacity for democratic self-government, whereas Mexico, although independent for nearly a century, has shown its incapacity. "There is no present reason to hope," says the Oregonian, "that democracy can spring from within that country. It may grow up under the tutelage of a stronger nation which sets earnestly about this task."

It is true that Mexico has been independent for nearly a century and that during the century it has had the shadow rather than the substance of democratic self-government. First there was a period of anarchy as rival clans and factions, inherited from colonial days, fought out questions of family and tribal supremacy, finally agreeing that all members of the limited ruling caste should have a voice in public affairs.

Then came a period of anarchy as the issues between clericalism and liberalism were warred over, resulting finally in an undisputed victory for liberalism.

Then came a period of anarchy incident to an effort to establish a foreign tyranny, set up on the theory advocated by the Oregonian that the Mexicans should be under the tutelage of a stronger nation.

Finally has come a new period of anarchy as the question is being decided of whether Mexico shall go on as a nominal republic—but actually an autocracy—or whether it shall make a start toward self-government.

It is clear to many in Mexico and to some outside that peace is not to be expected in the distracted country until the clentifico coterie at Mexico City, for many years the government, freely concedes that its day of supremacy is over and that its members must share responsibility with representatives of the Mexican masses.

It is customary to say that the democratic movement in Mexico began with Madero. It began long before. Madero was a consequence, not a cause. The democratic movement began in Mexico with the increase in the diffusion of wealth and education incident to material development. The railroads brought in a good deal of democratic infection, if such it is to be considered. American railway men, going to Mexico in large numbers, educated them, though Americans were frankly contemptuous of the "Greasers" and did not deem them fit for self-government. The average Mexican is not far along, but he can see that the free government of the United States gives the poor man a better chance than the Mexican oligarchy.

It is difficult to fence out democracy these days. The Persians, the Turks and even the Chinese, have become permeated with the disease. Mexico is no exception—that is all. The time has arrived when the old form must give way to the new. Whither they are going is, of course, not clear to the tatterdemalions who make up the army of Villa. They are not all unselfish patriots sacrificing themselves on the altars of a cause. But under their broad-brimmed hats ideas are stirring, and these ideas bode no good to Mexican feudalism. It is predictable that peace will not come to Mexico until the attempt to shoot order into her people is abandoned. The really stupid persons are those who blindly persist in trying to save a system that is unsavable. It is not difficult to understand Mexico's troubles if there is effort to understand.

DISCOURSE ON BULLS AND BEARS

By JOHN M. OSKISON.

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Speaking of bulls and bears of Wall street, one of its poets recently sang:

"When the winter's chill has passed us,
When the springtime's blossoms bloom,
The dead will awake,
The grave they'll forsake,
And sunshine break through the gloom."

A "confirmed bull" wrote a poem which the London Financial Times printed not long ago. It was entitled, "When the Bears Start Buying Back," and its first stanza was:

"I sing the song of that great day
When the bears start buying back;
They've had it all their own sweet way
A deal too long, to our dismay;
But won't there be a 'hip, hooray!'
When the bears start buying back!"

These two poets express the sentiments of a great body of investors and traders who have been borne down so long by the pessimists (who are symbolized by the bear) that they look forward to a time, not very far in the future, when they whose symbol is the bull will have their turn. They are optimists. They believe that most securities are far too low in price. They believe that the professional pessimists, the bears, have gone too far in selling down good stocks and bonds, and they say:

"Just wait till we get a budget of good news and begin to put the prices of good securities up to where they belong. Then the Bears will have to 'cover' the sales they have been making, and the way they'll have to bid for securities to make good their trades will open their eyes to the danger of being a bear too long."

Certainly, that time is coming. This inning has been a long one for the pessimists, but it must end soon; and as soon as the optimists feel that they are firmly in control of the markets, you may be sure that prices will go up rapidly.

Through a long term of years the bears are the salvation of security prices; but you must remember that they can't rule indefinitely.

Pointed Paragraphs

The best man seldom wins—at a wedding.

• •

Anyway, the road to happiness is always on the level.

• •

Most anything is doubtful that poses as a sure thing.

• •

Why not resolve to get even with the world by paying your debts?

• •

The small tumbler is responsible for many of the slips attributed to the cup.

• •

Good intentions should have asbestos wrappers—for reasons unnecessary to mention.

• •

Our idea of a fussy man is one who isn't on speaking terms with his own conscience half the time.

IN EARLIER DAYS

By Fred Lockley.

"I was born on July 4, 1836," said Lemmuel Lemmon, of Salem. "My father was born in Kentucky, my mother in Maryland. My people moved to Indiana where I was born. In 1840 when I was four years old they went to Missouri but hearing of Oregon they decided to go there. They figured it must be a pretty good place as it was so far away and so hard to get to.

"They outfitted at St. Joe, and crossed the Missouri river on May 6, 1845. There were 40 wagons in our train. Captain Leven N. English was in charge of our train. Captain English, though born in Maryland, was raised in Kentucky. After fighting in the war of 1812 he moved to Illinois. He served in the Black Hawk war as a captain. Shortly after the close of the Black Hawk war he moved to Iowa. He was one of Oregon's most progressive citizens. He settled in Salem in 1846 where he later built what were called the English mills. He served in the Cayuse war of 1847 and 1848. He had 12 children by his first wife and seven by his second wife.

"We reached the Willamette valley late in October and wintered on the Hawn place just across from where Oswego was later built. In those days most of the towns were on the rivers and streams, Oregon City, Champoeg and Vancouver being the principal trading points. The travel was largely by canoe or batteau and of course all freight traffic, particularly of heavy goods, such as wheat, beaver skins and pelts, was by batteau. The travel to points that could not be reached by streams was mostly on horseback and by pack horse.

"When father wanted to drive a wagon from our place near Oswego to Oregon City, he had to cut the brush out of the trail while I drove the oxen. Next spring we settled on Upper French Prairie near the present town of Brooks. My father was the first American settler with a white wife on French Prairie. French Prairie had been settled by ex-employes of the Hudson Bay company, French voyageurs who were living with squaws, or who had married half breed women.

"In those days Indians did a good deal of work for the white men. They were good boatmen and very faithful so that you usually hired Indians for river work and some of them became expert at cutting rails. My father hired Indians to cut the fence rails with which to fence his place. The price used to be $1 per hundred rails but after the mines had been discovered in California the price rose to from $1.50 to $2.50 per hundred. The Indians took their pay in blankets, flour, bacon, gunpowder or lead.

"Like all other wheat farmers in those days we trod our wheat out by oxen. Father thought it was a very shiftless thing to have to wait for a breeze before he could clean his wheat. Most of the early farmers erected platforms, threw their wheat and chaff in the air and let the wind blow the chaff away. My father fixed up a mill with fans to fan the wheat out. My father died in the sixties.

"I spent the winter of 1861 and 1862 in the mines near Boise. The first farm I owned was in the Waldo hills. It joined Dan Waldo's farm. I bought it in 1854, paying $900 for it. It was not quite a quarter section. To be exact it had a 147 acres in it. I was out there recently and priced it. The owner said he would take $9000 for it. My neighbors in the Waldo hills were the Waldos, the Taylors, King Hibbard, and Louis Griffith. I sold this farm and moved to a place near Monmouth, later moving into Lane county near Eugene. I have been a farmer all my life. I have had 11 children and when I call the roll of my grandchildren there are a good many to answer 'present.'"

Copperfield's Condemnation.

From the Pendleton East Oregonian.

If martial law at Copperfield is a bad thing does the blame rest on Governor West or on a few lawless lawyers and slothful officials who by their tactics obstructed needed reform and literally forced the governor to take drastic action?

Take a glance at the situation.

At Copperfield the town government was completely in the hands of saloonkeepers. Other people resented this and complained that not only was the town disorderly, but that they feared their homes would be burned and they declared murder had been threatened against them.

Upon the district attorney and sheriff fell the first duty of correcting the situation. They were either unwilling or unable to do so. It is now asserted the district attorney is the law partner of Nichols, the man who is defending the saloonmen, a fact which may have a bearing on the inaction of the prosecutor.

In behalf of the sheriff the beauteous plea is made that a sheriff exists mainly to serve warrants and is not required to take the initiative in capturing lawbreakers unless crimes occur under his own observation. That was not Harvey Brown's conception of the duties of a sheriff. If a sheriff is to be a mere warrant server it would be cheaper for Baker county to discharge Sheriff Rand and call a messenger boy when a warrant bearer is needed.

When the governor sought under the terms of a law passed last year to temporarily supplant this inactive sheriff his representative was unable to get a hearing before the circuit judge, who claims he cannot hear the case until next Saturday, when it will probably be too late.

Confronted with such pettifoggery and such evasion of duty by the civil authorities, yet required by the constitution of Oregon to see that the laws are "faithfully enforced" and with daily appeals from Copperfield men and women saying they were subject to insults and dangers, who can blame the governor for having used his military authority to correct the evil? Could he have done less and kept his oath of office?

Admitting that martial law is bad business, is it not cleaner and better than civil law when the civil law falls into the hands of men who live by vice and are aided by lawyers who morally come little short of being accomplices in crime?

And many a father who thinks he is saving money when he gives his daughter in marriage discovers later that he has a son-in-law to support.

The Sunday Journal

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