THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON .....Publisher

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He that uses many words for the explanation of any subject doth like the cuttlefish, hide himself for the most part in his own ink.—Ray.

THE RECALL FOLLY

THERE is no occasion for a recall of the mayor or of any commissioner in Portland.

Suppose the mayor should be recalled. Suppose his successor would, in some public matter, take a course inharmonious with the views of a lot of people. Suppose those people would circulate petitions and recall him.

Where would the process end, and what would be the conditions in this town? With such processes prevalent, with people trying to recall a mayor every time he fails to please all sides to a controversy, how can any self respecting man be induced to run for mayor of Portland?

There is no reason now to be trying to recall Mayor Albee. There is no reason to be trying to recall Mr. Dieck or Mr. Brewster.

Mayor Albee has not done some things The Journal would have done.

He has done some things The Journal would not have done. He has been too many times on both sides of the same issue.

But the proposal to recall him is folly. He has had but six months in office, a period far too short in which to determine his powers and possibilities in the position.

The proposal to recall him now is a proposal to shut him off without giving him a fair chance. The Journal did not help elect him but it wants him to have a fair trial and every opportunity to make good.

It wants the same chance given Mr. Dieck and Mr. Brewster. Anything less does violence to the great American sense of fair play. It is to condemn men before they have had time in which to show what they can do.

The recall petitions should be thrown into the river. It is no time to make a fool of Portland. It is no time to make a fool of public position. It is no time to make a fool of the recall.

BUILD WELL

THE folly of careless road building is strongly set forth by W. W. Crosby, a civil engineer of Baltimore in a recent issue of the Manufacturers' Record. It is far better, he argues, that a few miles of highway be constructed durably, than a hundred miles without foresight or system. When people assume a burden for a public enterprise they are naturally critical of the manner in which their money is spent and of the value they receive. If they find the roads for which they have bonded themselves going to pieces in a few years they become skeptical of road improvement in general and withhold their support from future undertakings. Every county engaged in road building should see to it first of all that its funds are being applied in a businesslike and scientific manner. This implies that the work should be done under the supervison of competent men. If there is waste and not a dollar's worth of road for a dollar, road improvement will receive a setback from which it will not recover in years.

THE LOST CAUSE

STANDPATISM is making its last determined stand in Pennsylvania. It is defending a cause already apparently lost, in a state whose politics has been described as "corrupt and contented," in an effort to re-elect Boise Penrose to the United States senate.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger recently suggested that Penrose could show loyalty to his party by withdrawing from the contest. But he refuses to withdraw, vainly imagining himself the savior of a losing cause. Now he is to have strong opposition within his own party, for J. Benjamin Dimmick of Scranton, who as mayor gave his city its first real business administration, has announced himself a Republican candidate in oppostion to Penrose. In making his announcement Mr. Dimmick said:

> I believe the way to bring back the Republican party is to cleanse it, and that is a task that each state must undertake in its own way. We must rehabilitate the party by taking our stand for things that are positive and for measures that make for the welfare of our citizens.

Mr. Dimmick's announcement is significant. He said one of the reasons for the great defeat of his party last year was that it failed to point out the proper remedy for things that manifestly needed correction. "I believe in protection," says Mr. Dimmick, "but we must address ourselves also to the great humanities and keep in the very forefront of progress."

The Ledger says it is a healthy sign that Pennsylvania is to have a real contest for the Republican senatorial nomination. That paper has uttered repeated warnings that the candidacy of Senator Penrose would prove a mistake. He has the party machinery under his control, but the Ledger points out the fact that an election must follow the primary. Therefore the candidate must be a man fairly representative of the people.

THE BELLINGHAM BANDITS

THE three lives snuffed out by a train bandit near Bellingham last night were not waste lives but useful lives.

One victim was a Canadian Pacific conductor, another a clerk at the Bremerton Navy Yard and the third a traveling salesman. When they attempted to grapple the robber, he shot them down, sending five shots into the back of one who tried to crawl behind a car seat.

The men were shot because they bravely attempted a defense of their fellow passengers. As usual, they had no chance against the armed desperado. His ready revolver laid them low, one by one.

Without the pistol, the hold-up would not have been attempted. It is the power and possibilities of a concealed pistol that cause men to undertake train robberies. It is a power that nerves men to get a living by preying upon society after the fashion of the Bellingham bandits.

The concealed pistol is a curse of mankind. It cuts good men down in their prime and orphanizes little children in their weakness.

Its manufacture ought to be stopped.

IF WE RECEDE

SENATOR CHAMBERLAIN'S defense of free tolls in the senate does honor to his position, his party and his state.

He holds that if we recede from free tolls as violative of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, we must, for the same reason recede from the clause prohibiting use of the canal by railroad-owned ships. That is true.

If we recede, for the same reason, he insisted, we shall have to recede from our right to fortify the canal, and that is true.

If we recede, for the same reason, he pointed out, we may be called upon to give to Great Britain or other foreign nation the same rights in the canal for their war vessels that we give to our own war vessels, and that is true.

If the equal terms with all nations in the treaty means that we cannot grant free tolls to our own ships in our own trade through our own canal, it means that we cannot prohibit Canada's railroad-owned ships from passing through our canal. It means that we cannot fortify our canal. It means that we cannot send through the canal our own warships, or revenue cutters, or transports in time of war or otherwise without giving the same privileges to the warships, revenue cutters and transports of Great Britain, Germany, or any other foreign nation.

After expending $400,000,000 of American money on the great waterway; after spending years in toil and struggle in its construction; after meeting all the chances of failure and all the great responsibilities of cost in maintenance and perils from convulsions of nature; after devoting all, sacrificing all and enduring all that we have in this vast undertaking, is it the humiliating fact that all these millions were paid out, not to maintain an American canal, but a European canal?

There is a tremendous answer in the fact that Great Britain, owner of the Suez canal, on a treaty exactly like the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, grants the equivalent of free tolls to her ships passing through Suez, permits France to grant the equivalent of free tolls through Suez, permits Russia to grant the equivalent of free tolls for her ships, permits Germany and permits all other nations to grant the equivalent of free tolls on their ships through the Suez canal.

If Congress repeals the free tolls clause, why not invite King George to come over and use the White House for a summer capital?

FREE RAILROAD SERVICE

THE Interstate Commerce Commission is securing further testimony bearing upon free service furnished big shippers by the railroads. In the industrial railways case the commission held that the "spotting" of cars without charge was a discrimination against smaller industrial companies, and therefore illegal. The present inquiry is revealing the reasons for practices which run contrary to law and the best interests of the railroads.

Free railroad service of all kinds has been discussed by witnesses representing the railroads and favored shippers. It has been made obvious that the big shippers, who generally are in favor of increased railroad rates, are opposed to paying for services they now receive for nothing.

The commission's investigations go to show that the railroads were guiltless of intentional wrongdoing. They are evidently the victims of a system which has developed with the growth of cities and large industries. Desiring to share in traffic furnished by the big manufacturers, the railroads have gradually made concession after concession, the effect of which has been to increase the cost of traffic and to impose injustices upon industries not favored by the railroads.

The facts now being developed have large significance. The railroads are asking permission to increase rates, and this in face of the fact that the roads are furnishing free service. The railroads are asking that shippers not so favored be required to pay rates which will reimburse the roads for legitimate revenues lost to the big trusts.

There is the further self confessed fact that the railroads have not resisted the demands of favored shippers. The roads evidently need protection, not against the general public, but against the favored few.

THE DASTARD CONSPIRACY

WHAT has become of the pestiferous Democratic political machine discovered and fearlessly exposed by the Oregonian in the game commission.

The discoverer of the fell plot has suddenly lost interest in telling the public of the diabolical plans of this pestilential conspiracy. The four Republican heads of the game department are still on their jobs, and are the implements by which the foul political outrages were to be perpetrated upon an innocent and unsuspecting people.

With its hoarse stage whispers the Oregonian had us all hushed into darkling fears of what the hellish Democratic machine composed of four Republican office holders, was to do. Here is the way the Oregonian exposed the base villainy:

> Let the eyes of the unsuspecting citizen who thinks the old politics is merely a bad memory and the political machine a rusting wreck on the shores of the new era of political reform, take a look at the performances of Governor West with the State Fish and Game Commission. The state will see the live workings of a political machine to boost the plans of the governor to put his residuary legatee (former State Senator C. J. Smith) in his shoes, such as it has not witnessed for many a day.

Presumably, the villians are still pursuing her, but not a word about the Democratic plot has been vouchsafed us by the original discoverer of the dastard conspiracy for several days!

Will the Oregonian please inform us as to the latest developments, and whether or not the fiendish villains are still on her trail?

NON-POLITICAL COURTS

INITIATIVE petitions are in circulation for a measure to make the courts of Oregon non-political.

The bill provides that no mark or sign shall appear on the ballot to indicate the party affiliation of a candidate for any judicial position. Nor can the friends of a candidate in any way refer for campaign purposes to the party alignment of a candidate for the bench. No candidate for a judicial office will have a place on the primary ballot. The only voting for judicial candidates will be at the general election.

The bill is in line with the distinct trend of the time. As president, Mr. Taft, titular head of the Republican party, named a Democrat justice of the supreme court of the United States. Several states have already taken their courts out of politics by plans much like that proposed in the bill for which signatures are now asked in Oregon.

The petitions should be freely signed. They are a first step for giving the people of Oregon an opportunity to declare that a judge ought not to be a politician.

THE BENTON KILLING

THERE are only meagre details of the killing by General Villa of William Benton, a British subject, at Chihuahua, Mexico.

Facts that stand out are that Benton was a British subject and that, on account of damage to his Mexican properties, by the rebels, he went to Chihuahua "to tell Villa what he thought of him." Though owner of large interests in Mexico, and though he had a Mexican wife, Benton remained a British subject and alien to Mexico.

Nothing but trouble comes out of the alien ownership of land, no matter where. It is almost a moral certainty that most of the revolutions in Mexico are backed by warring factions of alien interests.

Thus, the British minister to Mexico is Sir Lionel Carden. British interests in Mexico are largely the interests of the Pearson syndicate, represented by Lord Cowdray. They are jointly interested, the New York World says, in a 40,000 acre land speculation in Mexico. Every acre and every dollar that they hope to get out of it is an argument against the policy of President Wilson and in favor of the continuation of Huerta.

In the presence of greedy aliens, Mexican land titles have been of negligible importance. With a dictator like Huerta, and a conspiracy of alien freebooters a deed is a myth and an abstract of title a fiction. Landed property has become in Mexico a prize to be gambled for with revolutions underwritten by syndicates as the play.

Whatever the facts, the death of Benton has its first cause in the evils and abuses of alien ownership of land.

Henri Bidou, French critic and historian, says music is not an art of peace; it originates in strife and anxiety. Perhaps Henri was required as a boy to practice on the piano when the fish were biting, or it may be his opinion was formed later in life while listening to his neighbor's daughter.

Many people sympathize with Mrs. Vanderbilt over the burning of her $500,000 Long Island home. And possibly some people are more concerned over her loss than they are when a cottage burns and leaves a family homeless.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger, Republican, suggests that Senator Penrose might show loyalty to his party by retiring, but the North American says such a course wouldn't be loyalty to his old friend, Penrose.

Portland's last issue of improvement bonds was three times oversubscribed at a premium of three per cent or better. It was only further evidence that money coming out of hiding is seeking investment in Portland securities.

Senator Luke Lee has the mumps and all his colleagues have been exposed. Anxiety in the senate is now probably greater than it was when the tariff bill was pending.

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.

How to Register This Year.

Pendleton, Or., Feb. 17.—To the Editor of The Journal—Thousands of voters have not registered yet. I want to say to each of them: Register as a Democrat for the following reasons:

1. That party is now in the hands of progressives.
2. It is in power, making good as no party has ever done, except under Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln.
3. The progressive element now controlling it is none too strong within the party and needs the help of all progressives in the coming primaries.
4. You yourself are in reality a Democrat, if you believe in the rule of the people as now exercised through your president and congress.
5. When a party comes to express your views through its policies and enactments better than any other, it is your party and it is your duty as a good citizen to register under its banner, so that you may help to make it serve yourself and your country.
6. Register as a Democrat, regardless of what you have called yourself heretofore. For a party is merely an organized instrument like a gun which will shoot for anybody in possession of it. The Democratic party is now working fine, and Wilson, your friend, has got the gun. It is shooting for you and will always shoot for you while the progressives control it. You, Mr. and Mrs. Plain People, if you register as a Democrat, can help to decide in the Democratic primaries who shall have the gun.
7. Owing to the sharp division of sentiment within the Republican party, the Democratic organization is in a better position than it to execute your will as witnessed by the revision of the tariff, the reform of the currency and the regulation of the trusts, all in your interest—a record of achievement not equaled since the Civil war.
8. You will be warmly welcomed by your fellow progressives in the Democratic party.

PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRAT.

The Virgin Birth.

Oregon City, Or., Feb. 19.—To the Editor of The Journal—Rev. A. A. Hurd invites "those who doubt to go and hear Dr. Hinson next Sunday." After that Dr. Aked will not be in it. They are both good men and true, but who will act as unbiased umpire in the debate? As for himself, the Reverened gentleman quotes "the Apostles' Creed" as all sufficient. Will he kindly inform a waiting world as to the author and origin of that creed? It is not to be found in the Bible. None of the apostles ever mention it. That it is the apostles' creed is a mere tradition, "an unproved assumption," to quote Mr. Hurd's own language, and not a scripture account at all. It is undisputed that the great host of Christian believers adore him who, according to that creed, 'was conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary,'" but a 10 times larger "host" of Buddhist believers adore Buddha, who came into the world in pretty much the same way hundreds of years before the Christian era.

It is equally indisputable that not so very long ago the same "great host of Christian believers" were just as firmly convinced that the world was immovable, according to the scripture, and that the sun, moon and stars revolved around it daily. These pious believers came very near to burning a heretic, Galileo, at the stake, for asserting the contrary, and compelled him to retract. Bruno was made of sterner stuff, and, refusing to recant, had his heretics burned out of him. The same fate would have been met by Dr. Aked had he lived in those days.

Will Mr. Hurd explain Luke 2:48 on the theory of the Virgin birth? It seems that in his twelfth year Jesus went with his family to Jerusalem and tarried behind three days. After a good deal of trouble they finally located him, and being considerably provoked his mother said: "Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? Behold thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing." Did not the Virgin Mary know positively that Joseph was not his father, and that: "being conceived of the Holy Ghost" he would necessarily be a most miraculous being and not at all subject to her control?

W. C. SCHULTZE.

Ella M. Finney Replies.

Gervais, Or., Feb. 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—In answer to "Soldiers' Girl" I wish to say:

Prohibition is nearer force than freedom. Extremes are not good either in dress or politics. Moderation is the word. There are thousands of people who plodded along heedless of the results of the wets and the drys. Neither wet nor dry they were classed as temperate—a middle class who favored neither extreme liking neither. They will vote next time and of two evils they will choose the least. That's a hard thing to say but it's the only way to strike a level. Liquor will be banished from social resorts and kept in clean law-abiding saloons where there will be no hangers-on and drunkards will be put on the blacklist.

You say the mountains are God's work. True and at the beginning of time God's work the Bible told of the use of liquor. Our mountains not being discovered are not so long established as the use of liquor. Ages and ages passed away before Salem went dry and that was after hoppicking, and there are no dead dogs in our dooryards, either. The smell must be nearer Portland. Literally speaking, we may have devoured the Cascades with our mind's eye. We may have drunk in the scenery, and liked it better than booze. But we knew without being told that the Cascades are not good to eat.

Since my hopyard was first planted, at an estimated expense of $6000 for every 40 acres, $150,000 has gone for production. Multiply this by all the hopyards in Oregon, and see whom you are attempting to injure. Our profits are small when compared with the profits of our friends of the overall brigade. Then hurrah for the hopyards, Oregon's great industry. Employe is benefited far more than employer.

ELLA M. FINNEY.

Home Tax Exemption.

Portland, Or., Feb. 16.—To the Editor of The Journal—In The Journal of February 13 John T. Dizney writes as if he were not aware that the $1500 home tax exemption measure, now assured of a place on the ballot next November, was not an amendment to the Oregon constitution. If he will read it he will discover that it will supercede the clause he quotes, which clause is one copied by Oregon from the old Indiana constitution and long since abandoned even by that mossback-ridden, political machine-cursed state.

Of course, Friend Dizney may think he is not taxed to the extent of over 20 per cent of his income, which is the average for working men and women, and in case this exemption measure cuts down his taxes he can turn over the surplus that weighs on his conscience to the state conscience fund for honest taxpayers, which no doubt the next legislature will provide for.

It is certainly just to provide for the exemption of the home from taxation to a reasonable amount when we bear in mind that there is scarcely a man or woman to be found in the country, and especially large corporations, which, being assessed for over $100,000, do not dodge taxes and exempt themselves for over 85 per cent of their actual possessions. Andrew Carnegie complacently dodges taxes on $295,000,000 out of $300,000,000, and admits it over his own signature. He has beaten the state of New York out of over $30,000,000 in taxes in the last ten years, and still continues to do so at that rate, which sums must be made up by taxing the small home owner. We have some tax dodgers in Oregon equally well versed in that art, and the only way to get even is for the home owners and small taxpayers to do some exempting. The tax laws of Oregon have been made by the special privileged and the rich for as many decades as we have a record of a state government—except when in 1910 the people swept out the infamous poll tax—and now it will take some positive exemptions of the home and the tools with which we earn a living to ever get even.

I am holding no brief for Mr. U'Ren, but so far he is the only man who offers a plan whereby we can have good roads without taxing the homes and farms of Oregon for the benefit of the land speculator and big tax dodgers, and that is to levy a stiff and positive tax on estates worth over $50,000.

ALFRED D. CRIDGE.

Politicians.

Ashland, Or., Feb. 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—As Taft has called T. R. a Socialist—which is an awfully bad name, but not so bad as it used to be—I feel it my duty, T. R. being so far away, to rise up and deny it. T. R. is not a Socialist! He is a politician, and a very clever one. Taft is also a politician. The reason I call them politicians is because they believe politics as a machinery of government is best for society. The reason I am a Socialist, or an Industrialist, is because I believe in the social or industrial machinery as being the ideal or better machinery of government.

Taft is right when he says the coming conflict will be between Socialism and society as now constituted. Society as now constituted stands for politics and opposes a change. It is at the door of politics that we lay all the miseries of the past and present. What good society enjoys, or what blessing it receives, is in spite of politics or by its leave. Because that to kill the goose that lays the golden egg would stop the supply of eggs, so politics, while defending and upholding exploitation, stops at the deadline only for the reason that to go farther would be fatal. Sometimes the line becomes dangerously near conditions such as exist in unhappy Mexico, and military exploitation displaces civil exploitation. While both are bad, the difference is a matter of degree more than of principle. Both Taft and Roosevelt contend for the present machine, even though the product thereof is vile. If Roosevelt was a Socialist he would demand removal of the old political machine and the placing, not of a new political machine, but of a new industrial or social machine known as a social, industrial or cooperative commonwealth, wherein exploitation would be illegal, cooperation would displace competition among laborers, and industrialism or Socialism would displace militancy or politics.

D. M. BROWER, M. D.

Asks About Good Whiskey.

Hood River, Feb. 19.—To the Editor of The Journal—A correspondent in a recent issue of The Journal appears to be boosting the whiskey business on the basis, this time, of its "valuable medicinal properties." He makes the declaration that good whiskey prolongs life. By using the qualifying term he may think he is giving his theory more weight. The writer asks the question, Is any whiskey good? And do those people who advance this theory believe what they try to make others believe? It is practically known from a variety of sources that whiskey has done far more damage than all the benefits received. Doubtless this statement, or probably misstatement, by the liquor men would not have been presented if the "Oregon Dry" campaign had not been launched.

Giving our children scientific temperance instruction is still going on, and within another generation we hope to have not only a saloonless nation but a better type of manhood and womanhood.

J. A. H.

Unemployment; Cause; Remedy.

Portland, Feb. 19.—To the Editor of The Journal—Unemployment is surely the greatest calamity that can befall a people. It will get worse as our unscientific economic system continues to grind out injustice. It is fast demonstrating itself an inadequate base for our civilization. You say, "It has served us quite well." It has served the strong quite well, but how about the weak? It is at best but a haphazard, gambling system and one of legalized robbery. We have got along after a fashion, because capitalism has had a vastly rich continent to feed upon. It has this continent about eaten up and stagnation will ensue in the near future. We are kept going by development work only. Our situation is a precarious one. The breakdown of the present system of economics is in sight. If we wish to avoid a cataclysm we should hasten to adjust our economic system to meet the demands of our well-being. For our relief in Oregon we should establish an industrial institution that will be self-supporting, to relieve our overcrowded labor market. This we can do at the election this fall, thanks to our initiative law-making power. Let us all line up and prepare a proper bill.

W. H. BLACK.

It Is Illegal.

Portland, Feb. 19.—To the Editor of The Journal—Kindly let me know through your columns if I can destroy United States money providing it is mine.

P. J. A.

Federal statutes forbid under any conditions whatever, the mutilation or destruction of money of the United States. Such mutilation, the laws provide, is criminal and the one who does it is subject to prosecution. The ownership of such money does not exempt from this provision.

A FEW SMILES

An excursion party from a midland county came to the capital to see the sights of the big city of Dublin. After A short time rambling around, one of the male party was missing. The crowd at once set out to find Pat, and after two hour's search they found him standing opposite a well known laundry. When asked what he was looking at he said:

"Well, begob, I came to see the sights of Dublin, and I'm blessed if I go home till I see the girl that hangs out the clothes on them lines," pointing to the telephone wires.

An Irishman who was selling a horse to an English agent, who was buying for the British army, was asked by the latter would he guarantee the animal fit for his majesty's service.

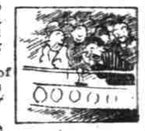
"Of course, I will, replied Pat, whereupon the bargain was completed.

Some time afterward the agent met Pat at a fair.

"Why, you scoundrel," exclaimed the Englishman, "you guaranteed that horse as fit for his majesty's service, and he turned out useless for the army."

"Then, hang it, man; why didn't you try him in the navy?" was the reply.

It was at a theatre in Manchester. The king, aged and infirm, was blessed with two sons. He was pacing up and down the stage, with a wearied, troubled look, exclaiming aloud:



"On which of these my sons shall I bestow my crown?"

Immediately came a voice from the gallery:

"Why not 'arf a crown apiece, guvnor?"

"Generally run down, sir?" queried the druggist. "Slightly seedy and want a good toning up?"

The pale-faced customer nooded.

"Well, I've the very thing for you—Jenkin's Juvenator. Three doses a day and more if necessary. Fifty a bottle."

"No, thanks," said the pale patient.

"But, my dear sir, it's the rage of the day. Jenkin's Juvenator is the greatest discovery of modern medicine. It's the rage of the season. Every one is rejuvenating, you might say."

"Yes, but I think I'd rather try something else," replied the customer.

"Nonsense," pressed the chemist. "I tell you, Jenkin's Juvenator will have more effect on you in a single day than any other medicine could have in a month. It cures everything from coughs to corns. What's your objection to it?"

"Why, nothing, only I'm Jenkins."

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Still an expensive new straw hat is not an absolute necessity yet.

• •

Like other adages, the old saying that "suicide is confession," isn't always true.

• •

Wireless messages are said to be "picked up." Wouldn't "picked down" be more accurate?

• •

That weekly Washington, D. C., weather forecast keeps appearing just as if it usually came true.

• •

Winter is a cruel thing to the poor in large eastern cities. How greatly better off poor people are here.

• •

The year is young yet; there is a rare possibility that the auditorium site will be selected before it ends.

• •

When a southern mob gets the nigger lynching fever, it isn't at all necessary to know that the victim is guilty.

• •

While working to abolish the smoke nuisance, don't overlook the worst sort of smoke, that of cigarettes in boys' mouths.

• •

So the vote for the east side auditorium site was only tentative, not final. It would have been very strange, indeed, to have had the matter settled so soon.

• •

Quite often one reads: "Although he had been many years in public life, he died comparatively poor." Why "although"? Is a strictly honest man in public life considered an anomaly?

• •

San Francisco preachers are heterodox in the proportion of 74 to 19, according to a vote on Dr. Aked's resignation because he was accused of heresy. But there is very little heresy any more.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Work on the new Southern Pacific depot at Central Point is in progress. Plans call for a structure 100 feet long.

• •

Another of the old landmarks of both town and railroad is fast disappearing from Huntington, the company having sold the old coal bunkers. The purchaser is tearing them down.

• •

In three days ending Wednesday 96 applications for naturalization were handled by the officials at Astoria. Fifty-six applicants were admitted, 28 rejected and the cases of 12 continued.

• •

Workmen under direction of the city street superintendent are clearing the ground for the excavating for Albany's new postoffice building. Ground will be broken, it is thought, not later than April 1.

• •

The manual training department of the Wallowa schools has been enlarged. Four grades below the high school are now learning to handle the tools. Meanwhile the high school gymnasium is going up as fast as the weather will permit.

• •

A capacity house, as reported in the Hillsboro Independent, saw "The New Minister" given by the Christian and Evangelical churches last Friday night for the benefit of the street improvement fund. E. L. Perkins had the title role and shared honors with Miss Alice Smith.

• •

Observing that, as estimated, Union county has 100 people subject to the income tax and Umatilla county about the same number, the Baker Herald invites the inhabitants of those two counties to "come to Baker county, where the opportunities for money making are so plentiful that more than 150 have sufficient income to take part in the taxpaying."

LAMP VERSUS PICKAX PHILOSOPHY

From the San Francisco Bulletin.

Greater than learning and cloistered scholarship is the ability to enter sympathetically into the lives of other men and to understand their joys and their sorrows. Nothing is of real importance divorced from its application to humanity. No principle of human conduct is valid that will not work upon your neighbor. These are aphorisms hard for men of studious inclination to remember, and yet very important to them. Yet even Charles W. Eliot, former president of Harvard, most honored of the scholarly fraternity in this country, seemingly forgot them the other day when he undertook to defend his antagonism of trades unions in a letter to President Pender of the Trolleymen's union of New York city. The argument of one paragraph is worth noting carefully, because it typifies a certain academic cast of thought.

"I cannot agree with you," it runs, "that the trades unions have brought happiness to any workingmen. Higher wages, shortened hours, better clothes and more meat do not necessarily contribute to genuine happiness any more than the luxuries of the rich do. Happiness and content are states of mind."

These "states of mind," it is fair to add, Dr. Eliot hopes to induce not by the rewards given labor, but by making the task itself a joy. And that is a very high ideal. But he completely overlooks the physical betterment, the increased physical efficiency, the opportunities for healthful recreation and for education, the greater self-respect, and, in brief, the chance for a better balanced life, which is afforded workingmen by shorter hours and higher wages. Work may be a scholar's whole life, because he loves it, but it cannot be, and should not be, the whole life of a factory worker. The higher development of civilization rests, truly, upon the daily toil of men, but its flowers are the growth of leisure. The more leisure and the better living we can insure working people without impairing the output of useful things the happier our civilization will be. Happiness cannot be mesmerized into a human being. It is based upon soundness of mind and body, which, in turn, is based upon healthful living and working conditions.

The weakness in Dr. Eliot's contention is his manifest ignorance of what industrial toil means to the workers. No one who ever swung a pick, or handled tools, or stood all day in a factory beside a whirling machine would dispute what might be called the materialistic basis of happiness. The philosophy of the study and the philosophy of the factory and mine are far apart, and men cling most closely to the theorem proven in their own sweat and weariness. Any other sort ring false.

PROFIT IN TWO HOURS OF $600,000

By John M. Oskison.

The other day you and your fellow investors rushed to place in the hands of two investment banking houses a clear profit of $600,000—and all within the space of two hours. You helped to write a very interesting and dramatic chapter in American finance.

At noon on January 21 the controller of New York state opened bids for $51,000,000 of state bonds bearing interest at the rate of 4½ per cent. The bid that was accepted came in about an hour before the envelopes were opened. It came from two big banking firms acting together, and it offered to pay the state $1,060.70 for every $1000 bond.

On the morning of January 22 the successful bidders for the state bonds offered the bonds for sale to you and me at $1,072.50 for each $1000 bond. Within two hours we (largely represented by our agents, the retail bond dealers) took the whole $51,000,000 issue. To some purchasers the original buyers allowed a selling commission of $1.25 on each $1000 bond. But no one knows, except the sellers, how many such buyers were accommodated. Assume that half of them got their bonds for $1,071.24 each—what was the total profit to the successful bidders?

The total profit would, in that case, figure $569,925—in less than two hours.

Why is such a remarkable showing possible. Largely because you and I know nothing at all about the current rate of return on money which is put to work. Largely because you and I paid no attention to the opportunities offered from time to time to bid for the bonds which cities and states put out. Largely because we have learned to leave the selection of this sort of investment to bankers who must have their commissions for executing our buying orders.

There is no other sound reason except our indifference and ignorance why we should not buy state and city bonds directly from the states and cities. I believe that the selling officials of states and cities, if they got together in some sort of co-operative organization, could educate you and me to such a knowledge of municipal bond values that we should no longer have to pay bankers over half a million dollars for an overnight demonstration of their expert judgment.

IN EARLIER DAYS

By Fred Lockley.

"In November, 1856, I was married to Miss Harriet Scott, a sister of Harvey Scott and Abigail Jane Duniway," said W. R. McCord of Portland, a pioneer of 1850. "We were married by Rev. Neal Johnson, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister, a brother-in-law of John T. Scott, the father of Harvey Scott. We were married at Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway's house at Hardscrabble.

"Our wedding dinner was cooked over the coals in a fireplace.

"Mrs. John T. Scott, who was the mother of my wife and of the other Scott children, died in crossing the plains. Her husband, John T. Scott, married again after he had come to Oregon.

"I spent the winter after my marriage at Lafayette, where I lived with my brother-in-law, Mr. Cook. Mrs. Cook was a sister of my wife, and is the mother of Mrs. Olds, of Olds, Wortman & King.

"In 1857, we moved to Portland, where I secured work as a carpenter. In 1858, we moved to Hardscrabble, where I built a Methodist church. After finishing the church I got a job in Portland building a house for General Lovejoy. General Lovejoy was a very well dressed man. He was excitable and impetuous, but kind hearted, affable and intelligent.

"In the early days of fishing on the Columbia I went up to work at Warren's cannery. We used to catch the salmon in nets. I rigged up a fish wheel on Bradford's island, at the foot of Cascade rapids. This was the first fish wheel that I know of being used on the Columbia. The salmon no longer run as they used to in those early days before they had been caught so extensively. The record catch of this fish wheel was 7000 salmon in one day. We used to get 3 cents apiece for blueback salmon. For salmon running from 12 to 15 pounds, we got 15 cents each. Any salmon weighing over 15 pounds brought 30 cents. Sometimes we would get runs of very large salman, running from 50 to 60 pounds. We were given 30 cents apiece for them.

"The biggest run of fish I ever remember seeing on the Columbia was a run of sturgeon. The wheel was a 32 foot wheel. One Saturday night the run of sturgeon commenced. We worked until 3 o'clock next day. The sturgeon averaged about 150 pounds, though some of them were as large as 8 or 10 feet in length. In 24 hours we caught over 30 tons. In addition to my regular two men I had some Indians to help me handle them. As the wheel threw them out we would stick them through the head with a pick and shove them back into the river. In those days sturgeon were not considered food fish. We wouldn't have bothered killing them but would have simply thrown them back in the river, if it had not been for the fact that we were anxious to kill them off and rid the river of sturgeon. We considered them a nuisance."

Pointed Paragraphs

Paper money is soft, but hard to get.

• •

There's no love so inexpensive as a mother's.

• •

Many a so-called opportunity is merely an optical illusion.

• •

Girls, keep your fiances at a distance—from young widows.

• •

The woman who marries for money earns a lot more than she gets.

• •

An impossibility is something a woman is unable to do with a hair pin.

• •

Somehow one never thinks of blaming his face because it needs a shave.

• •

How it does disturb us when all we get for our money is the worst of it!

• •

A popular neighbor is one who listens to our troubles without insisting on telling his.

• •

Once in a great while a talkative woman meets a man who is really smart—then she shuts up and listens.

• •

It's a pity we can't put some of our youthful enthusiasm in cold storage and keep it for old age.

The Ragtime Muse

What the Old Guard Says.

We used to belong to the Farmers' Alliance;
Ere that as the "Grangers" we fought for reform;
Ah, then, when we uttered our cry of defiance,
We started the whirlwind and rode on the storm!
We were called "anarchists" then, and "plain crazy,"
Because we were out for a new money plan,
But even the bankers now say it's a daisy,
Supported by McAdoo — excellent man!

'Way back in the "eighties" for co-operation
We pleaded, deluded and dangerous jays;
'Twas said that we aimed at destroying the nation!
But now the idea is harvesting praise.
We said that the trusts would be surely oppressive—
The populace called us "disgruntled old cranks";
We now say the same, and they say we're "progressive"
And tender us banquets and loud votes of thanks!

We used to be mobbed for our uttered opinions
On money and tariff and taxes and trade,
But now when we howl of "plutocracy's minions"
They cheer to the echo, no longer dismayed.
Our "follies" and "dreams" and "delusions" now hearty
Support from the masses and classes have won;
We're writing the platforms of every party—
Reform's grown too easy to be any fun!

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