In the last week's issue of his paper Mayor Kennedy tries to dodge accountability for his illegal acts by endeavoring to prove that we are a liar and just as bad as the rest of 'the' outfit known as the city council. He and two or three of the councilmen would no doubt like to detract public attention from themselves-to talk about something else-anything, in fact, to get a rest; but this they will be unable to do while THE SCOUT is on deck. As we said, last week, it does not affect the case either way whether Jones is a liar or a modern edition of George Washington. If it is proven that we sanctioned the action of the council in any way, we freely admit that the people should kick us out with the rest of the gang. Our actions as an individual does not affect the action of the council as a body or the actions of Mr. Kennedy as mayor. Every statement we have made is true and the people need not take our word for it, They can get all the information required from the records. Let anyone investigate the matter, bearing always in mind that each member of the council has taken a solemn oath to support the constitution and laws of the city; let him read the charter and laws of the city, which are so plain that a child can understand them; let him then read the record of the council meetings as written by the recorder, and approved by the council, then when he has done that, we would like to ask him if he thinks the following statement published by Blakeslee, Elliott, Corbin and Johnson, at the instigation of Kennedy, is not a perfectly natural effusion, under the circumstan- it is quite probable that the people

"We the undersigned, were present at council chamber on September 20, 1890, and know that Councilman Jones was present before the vote was decided for the improvement of Main street, and was asked by the mayor and one councilman, J. H. Corbin, to | Here it is: vote on the proposition. The motion was read to him, and he said he preferred the mayor to decide it, or words to that effect,"

We absolutely deny the truth of the above statement with the exception of the part where it states that the motion was read again after we went in. Councilman Wilson was the introducer of the motion and he did read it, or a portion of it, in our hearing. We are inclined to believe only a portion of it for, after the council adjourned, Wil son having left, the matter was further discussed and every councilman present freely stated that he believed it wrong to pass such a measure. This seemed to rile Mayor Kennedy and he asked Corbin and Elliott why they did not vote on it, then. That was the first intimation we had that Corbin and Elliott had not voted. A further discussion ihen arose concerning the motion and every councilman asserted that they did not hear the last clause of the motion, where it provided that the sidewalk shall be made at the expense of the city. Mayor Kennedy admitted that he had not, himself "eaught on" to that part of it. This is true, but they will all, probably, de ny it. Whether Wilson read all the motion or left out part of it we do not know and do not care. We regarded the whole thing as an illegal farce with which we wanted nothing to do. We were not asked to vote by any one and no intimation was given us that we would be allowed to vote.

At the next meeting of the council, a week or so later, and after the criticisms made by THE SCOUT, the record of the previous meeting was read for approval, and contained the following minute, evidently carefully prepared for the occasion:

"After a discussion of the same (street improvement) a vote was taken and resulted in a tie vote, one councilman voting for and one against the said motion. Thereupon a general discussion was had, when Councilman Jones appeared. The motion was again read and the mayor asked the non-voting councilmen, Jones, Carbin and Elliott to east their votes, and no more votes being cast the mayor cast his vote in favor of the motion."

We were not present at this meeting, but Councilman Pursel was, and he informs us that he protested against the injustice of approving such a statement, as he did not think it described the proceedings at all. It is needless to state, however, that the record stands as written, and no mention is made in the minutes of Pursel's protest.

Mayor Kennedy in his newspaper,

week later says: "Conneilman Jones refused to vote, although euraestly requested to do so by the mayor and members of the coun-

What can the public think of these statements? At one time Mayor Kennedy says that he asked Jones, Corbin and Elliott to vote. At another time he says that he and the councilmen (presumably all of them) urged Jones to vote: At another time he says that he and one councilman-Corbinasked Jones to vote. Will anybody believe his statements? Will anybody believe the statement of the creature -Corbin-when he allows Kennedy to put the statement in his mouth that he (Corbin) asked us to vote? Is it reasonable to suppose that Corbin, while all the time refusing to vote himself, was urging Jones to vote? And, yet, he has allowed Kennedy to make him say that he did. When we asked Corbin about the matter the other day on the street, the nearest we could get him to saying that he asked us to vote was that he "suggested that a new vote be taken." The other men who were induced to sign that statement can reconcile the matter with their own consciences. It is easy to traduce a man's character, and there are many who despise themselves, af-

Conneilman Pursel, who has taken an upright course in the matter, all the way through, and was present at all the meetings, and also Street Commissioner Ficklin, who was present, make the following statement:-

terward, for doing so.

We, the undersigned, were present at the council meeting on Sept. 20, 1890, when the question of improving Main street was being acted upon and know that Councilman Jones came in after the vote of the Councilmen was east, but before the Mayor decided it. ve were paying attention to the proceedings and if the mayor or any of the councilmen asked Mr. Jones to vote we did not hear them.

S. A. PURSELL, Councilman. N. F. FICKLIN, St. com'r.

After reading the above we are willing for the people to form their own conclusions as to who has lied, although don't care anything about it. What they want to know is how the council is managing the municipal business and spending the funds of the city. This brings us back to our original arraignment of the council.

First-That the mayor issued a call for a special meeting, at which important business was transacted, without stating the object of the meeting in

SECOND-That two councilmen, Corbin and Elliott, refused to vote on a

THIRD-That the mayor decided a ballot when but two councilmen had voted and five councilmen were pre-

FOURTH-That expensive street improvements that should be made at the expense of the property owners adjacent were ordered made at the expense of the city, contrary to law and

When Mayor Kennedy and those conneilmen can explain this satisfactorily to the taxpayers, it will be time enough for them to attempt to impeach our veracity. Business before pleas-

THERE are many curious annalogies between some men and the business they are engaged in, but none more so than a "family paper" conducted by a lank, lean, contracted specimen of humanity whose dwarfed mind never realized the grandeur of unbiased and free investigation; whose selfish heart never vibrated to a generous sentiment or felt the pleasure there is in treating an opponent with fairness: whose diminutive soul, so small it would rattle on the inside of a mustard seed, never experienced a divine impulse or felt a desire to rise above its sordid littleness. A "family paper" conducted by a man whose nature prompts him to believe that hypocricy is the best policy, and that thrift must follow fawning, may be tolerated for a time, but the thing who runs it will soon discover that he is not in his proper kennel.

THE Portland Chamber of Commerce recently passed the following : Resolved, That this Chamber of Commerce request from the legislature that they appropriate \$250,000 for the purpose of properly showing the varied interests and resources of this State at the World's Columbian Exposition, and that the Oregon State Board of Trade be requested to lend their influence to accomplish this object, and to request the governor or legislature to appoint gon, whose duty it shall be to gather, other food than is afforded by the windmount and have placed on exhibition at Chicago all articles furnished by this State for the world's fair, with pow-

this purpose."

FEATURES OF A NEW TAX LAW. Proposition Agreed Upon by the Senatorial Committee in Session at Salem.

The senatorial committee appointed at the last session of the state legislature to devise ways and means for remedying the evils and imperfections of present assessments and tax laws, HAVANA PRESS DRILLS are still wrestling with the many perplexities this difficult question presents. The committee consists of Senators Raley, Tongue. Wait, Hilton and Cogswell, and they have been in session at Salem since Monday morning, October 13th nearly two weeks. They have labored assiduously, working from 8 o'clock in the morning often till 11 STODDARD HARROWS o'clock at night, and, if they succeed

great deal of credit. Just what the committee has accomblished is not known, but rumor has it that they have decided upon a number of well-grounded propositions which, if adopted by the State legislature, will not only simplify assessments, but centralize authority and strengthen the law as well.

in adjusting the taxation problem to

the satisfaction of the majority of Ore-

gon's citizens, they are entitled to a

First, it is decided that all assessments shall be made as if made on the 1st of April of each year. An assessor, when shall be authorized to examine the taxbe made boards of equalization, and assessors shall be required to attend meetings when matters concerning taxation are under consideration. If any person fails to list his property, or to answer the questions propounded to him by the assessor, the assessor shall be authorized to double his taxable property, and the board of equalization shall have no right to make any deductions therefrom. The board of equalization shall not reduce any assessments, unless the applicant or his duly authorized agent appears before them, and is examined under oath as to the amount and value of the property he possesses or represents as agent.

The committee also contemplates the creation of a State board of equalization, composed of one member from each judicial district in the State. This board shall have authority to equalize assessments between counties on different kinds of property, but cannot equalize individual assessments.

Upon the foregoing propositions the members of the committee are agreed. There seems to be some difference of opinion, however, regarding the advisaquestion of vital importance to the tax- bility of repealing the mortgage tax law and not allowing deductions for indebtedness. The majority of the committee, it is understood, are in favor of both these measures, but whether or not the benefitted by the use of such circulaminority can be won over is for the tion, should expect to compensate the future to decide.

The members of the State board of equalization are to be elected in the or clothing. Men will beg of newssame manner as circuit judges, each to hold office four years. The committee is still in session and will probably finish their labors for the present, tomorrow night and then meet again sometime before the convening of the legislature.

The committee was instructed to bolt of calico or a barrel of sugar. The make a report embodying such sug- space and circulation of a newspaper gestions as might be deemed advisable for eradicating existing evils of taxa- the goods on a merchant's shelves. If tion. This report will be in the na- the "mention" of a fact will confer no ture of a bill which will be submitted | benefit why ask it? If the publication to the house for adoption.

Mr. George C. Sears, assessor of Multnomah county, met with the committee Wednesday night by invitation and from what he saw of the report thinks | years enjoyed the reputation of being they are preparing a very meritorious a man of excellent judgement, but he bill, and one which, if adopted by the never gave better proof that he was legislature, will meet the issue of a entitled to this distinction than he more equal taxation.

The question of precinct assessors, Roger Pryor at the Astor House, New which was a stumbling block for some | York, last Thursday night, when he time, has been practically decided, and no such offices will exist under the proposed law.

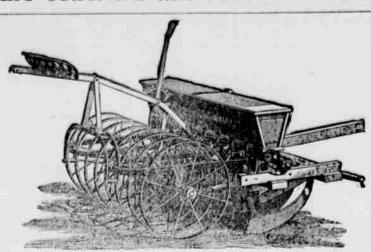
This feature of the bill meets Mr. Sears' approbation, for he believes it is what direction his duty leads, cannot much better to have one officer for each district and have him held responsible to the county for equitable assessments.

Ir is nothing uncommon to hear the sentiment of a great majority of the folly of Kansas farmers in burning corn for fuel commented on, says an exchange: "The folly of Oregon farmers who burn their straw just to get it out of the way is less excusable. If we are correctly informed, enough straw is burned in this country every year to winter five thousand head of cattle. To learn the value of a straw stack the Oregon farmer should go to Kansas, where he will see thousands a State commission to co-operate with of head of cattle and horses wintered the United States commission for Ore- through with no other shelter and no ward side of a straw stack,

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THOSE who wish to use the circula

tion of a newspaper, or who are to be

owner of the newspaper just as they

expect to pay for drygoods, groceries

papers what their pride would forbid

them asking of merchants. Why

should a newspaper be requested to

"mention" some fact, the publica-

tion of which confers an individual

benefit, any more than a merchant

are its stock in trade, as much so as

does confer a benefit, why ask it for

MR. CHAUNCY M. DEPEW has for

did at a banquet in honor of Gen.

said: "If I am to name the typical

American, the man who loves and be-

lieves in his country beyond everything

else, the man who, determined once in

be swerved from the path, the man

who is doggedly persistent in what he

believes to be right, the man who thinks

not of self, but of his country and its

needs, I would name Grover Cleveland."

In saying this Mr. Depew but voices

The Pulpit and the Stage.

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ren Church, Blue Mound, Kan., says: "I

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ough trial and convincing evidence, I am

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