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greatest number" demands that ten should suffer in order that one hundred may be blessed.

In the recent campaign the LEADER was accused of being "wet" because it could not be enthusiastically "dry." It is, however, so "dry" that nothing short of national prohibition will satisfy it. It sees danger to the cause from half-baked legislation in Oregon and Washington. It sees no logic in abolishing the saloon unless liquor itself is abolished. Why fool with a mustard plaster when a putrid appendix needs excision?

No state can deal successfully with the liquor traffic so long as the national government is in partnership with the liquor traffic and shares hugely in its ill-gotten gains. That's what's the matter with Kansas, concerning which so-called prohibition-state enough lies have been told by both sides to exhaust a trainload of nails. Oregon and Washington have about the chance of Neptune's breech-cloth of getting and staying dry.

Russia, once the village drunkard of the nations, has reformed almost in a day. With all the power of the federal government behind him, Uncle Sam could easily reform. National prohibition is popular. We venture to say it would carry by a two-thirds vote at a national plebiscite. Either of the two great parties could sweep the country with such a plank in its platform. Unless the Republicans "best them to it," such a plank is all that can possibly save the Democrats from defeat in 1916.

Noting that Nona, the lovely and accomplished daughter of Secretary McAdoo, is about to volunteer as a nurse with the allied armies in France, our war editor remarks that he isn't so old he wouldn't like to enlist if he thought he could ever qualify as one of her patients.

The Oregon house committee on alcoholic traffic is willing to allow each Oregon citizen two quarts of whiskey and fifteen quarts of beer per month, which if promptly and comprehensively absorbed will enable most anybody to see an anaconda.

A government statistician estimates that our beloved republic will contain just 100,000,059 people by April 2, 1915, at 4 p. m.; but meanwhile we may get action on Boyd, as we think this number is about one too many.

The Sunday Oregonian contains a profound editorial on metabolism, and our low-browed sporting editor wants to know if it applies to the careless swatsman who met a ball with his bean.

The Oregonian commends President Wilson's steadfast neutrality attitude—in which the Great Only for once achieves the distinction of sharing the views of the WESTON LEADER.

The Spokesman-Review tells us that a Spokane woman's jaw was broken by an exclamation. What in all creation could have been this dangerous ejaculation? "Damnation?"

We would feel more hopeful over Evangelist Bulgis's confident assertion that "all God wants is a square deal," if the reverend doctor would only show us his credentials.

We are not surprised at the strange developments in Oregon's most celebrated murder case, since almost anything might happen around a place yecept Scappoose.

"Rockefeller Has Given Quarter of a Billion Away," says an Oregon Journal headline, thus crediting John D. with the virtual contributions of his customers.

It is only necessary to kill someone and break out of a bug-house to acquire popularity in Boston, where Thaw was met by cheering thousands.

Judge Lowell of Pendleton again raises the issue of Carnegie's "tainted money," but as for us we'd just like to have a chance to smell some.

We decline to pay \$20 per minute to talk across the continent, although convinced that whatever we had to say would be well worth the money.

Unless he is slandered by his pictures, we'd hate to meet "The Newest President of Mexico" up a blind alley with thirty cents in our pocket.

With two intensely rival lines of local transportation between town and depot, Weston presents no very promising field to the jitney bus.

With the mercury forty below in "the states," Weston has no more right to shiver than a flock of cassowaries in a Saharan simoon.

We simply cannot acquire any linguistic Polish in studying the eastern war zone—perhaps because it isn't pronounced that way.

Eastern Washington "Wets" have applied for a new state—becoming fearful, probably, of living in a state of exasperation.

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IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE POINT OF VIEW



(J. E. Murphy in the Oregon Journal.)

BARRETT'S TAX MEASURE IS QUITE LIKELY TO PASS

Salem, Or., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—

The introduction of Senator Barrett's bill proposing a change in the present tax collection system is creating a widespread interest, especially among the farmers of Eastern Oregon. This tax bill, if it becomes a law, will prove to be of a decided benefit to the taxpayers of Morrow, Umatilla and Union counties, which comprise the district represented by Senator Barrett. Holding an important place on the senate committee on assessment and taxation, Senator Barrett is in a position to urge the passage of his bill. The universal complaint which has arisen all over the state since the passage of the 1912 laws relating to the system of tax collection, caused him to be in on the ground floor with a measure that would correct the evils complained of and at the same time result in no revolutionary system that would upset business.

"Taxpayers are good tax experts," is one of the idioms that Senator Barrett has introduced in regard to the question of taxation and he assumes the position that the wishes of the taxpayer should be considered.

The main changes effected by the Barrett bill from present laws are as follows:

Section 1 of Barrett's bill provides for payment of one-half of taxes on or before November 1, instead of as in present law providing for payment by April 1, or half on April 1 and September 1, with penalties. Interest penalties are changed from one per cent a month to eight per cent per annum on delinquent taxes unpaid to November 1, and 12 per cent per annum on taxes remaining unpaid, the second half year's taxes becoming delinquent November 2.

Throughout the Barrett bill the words "tax collector" are substituted where the word "sheriff" appears in the present law.

Dates as to collection of delinquent taxes on personality, as to delinquent tax returns and as to certificate of delinquency are changed in the Barrett bill from the old law to conform to the change in date of payment of taxes.

The Barrett bill makes the tax on personal property a lien on realty at the time the first half becomes due.

The Barrett bill makes the tax collector the collector of all delinquent tax.

THE GROUCH.

The Great Creator in His Wisdom created many men of many minds and temperaments, knowing that if the sons of men were alike in wishes and desires it would lead to unending strife.

He created well, for man is the noblest work of God. But in some way there crept into the world a creature God did not create—a thing self-made, he male or female, that is hated, despised and abhorred; a thing self-created, self-pitied and abnormally self-loved.

This self-created creature is the chronic grouch that walks here and there in every town and community searching for happiness—that he may destroy it. Flowers and children, because they represent beauty and love, he detests. He reads as he runs that all men are liars and all women but creatures of evil.

In summer he reviles the bright sunshine and hates the green hills. In winter he reviles the cleansing snow and the purifying frost. The bitterness of gall and wormwood is within his heart.

Children flee from him and his wife can be classed among the martyrs. Men shun him and the world hates him. From an early age he walks this earth spreading unhappiness and unbelief—a maker of evil and discord.

Let us throw the x-ray of self-examination into our hearts and search out the little microbes that has a tendency to multiply and produce, in time, the hated grouch. There is too much love and sunshine in this old world of ours to spoil it with the canker of selfishness.—Exchange.

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