

The communists represented by Mr. Thos. Shearman in Portland, at present, propose to destroy the titles to all real estate and to allow everybody to have the use of land as a commonality. That is an old doctrine. It can be traced back for more than two thousand years. It was not a new doctrine when the agrarians of Rome clamored for its enforcement. It has never been a remedy for poverty and never will be. But, naturally enough, there are many thrifless persons who like the doctrine and would take kindly to any scheme which proposed to give them something for nothing. In every community there is an element which is waiting for something to turn up. It hates the prosperous classes because these are a constant rebuke to its own want of thrift and providence. Any scheme which would take from them what they have gained and divide it among those who have nothing, and never will have anything, is very attractive to the latter.

There is no remedy in this for poverty. The improvident class is not made provident by dividing the gains of the rich with the poor. Every man in the country who has health, industry and temperance can raise himself beyond the condition of actual poverty. It is not the business of organized society to do it for him. It is his individual business. If he fail through his lack of industry, through intemperance or any form of dissipation, it is not the business of society to make good his inheritance. He has lost it by indolence, dissipation, lack of thrift. All that society undertakes to do is to keep him from actual starvation. It provides almshouses and other places of refuge for the poor and the unfortunate. It does not look to any great extent into the reasons for his failure to provide for himself. Drunkards, the shiftless, lazy, improvident, with a few who are overtaken by disease and who therefore have been unfortunate, are provided with shelter and food. But they are not provided with land or homesteads, and never will be, as the result of any organized society.

So far from finding any adequate remedy for poverty in the theories of George and McGlynn, they provide no means for more than temporary relief, if, indeed, they go to that extent. The stimulus to thrift, prudence, industry, the husbanding of means, are in the direction of acquisition. The patient laborer of to-day is looking forward to the time when he will own his own homestead. He counts every dollar. He will not give himself up to licenses of any sort. He cannot afford to be idle a single day when work is offered to him. The very spring of his action and his hope is in this desire to have something which is exclusively his own.

There will never be a defeasance of the title to land in this age except such as is brought about by death. People cannot, of course, occupy it any longer than they live. There may be some reforms in the laws of descent and distribution; but it is not conceivable that there will ever be any such revolution of society as will turn back all landed estates into one commonality. The arable land of the world is only partially occupied. Population in some great centers is far too great for the immediate area. That is, it cannot live by mere cultivation of land. That is true of such a population as has been concentrated in London. This massing of population cannot be helped. The tendency is as old as civilization. Long before the era of railroads and steamships the population of cities ran up into the millions. Such populations did not live by agriculture alone. They carried on trades of all kinds. Every great city is a hive of varied industries. Railroads and steamships are additional means of concentration. There is no known limit to the growth of the modern city.

So far from working any defeasance in the titles to land honestly acquired, beyond what death is constantly doing, the best remedy for poverty is the acquisition of land. There are thousands of workingmen and women to-day who are patiently toiling for just this result. The greater number will succeed in some way. A part will acquire small homesteads in cities; another part will have suburban holdings. Others will have farms more or less extensive. Some will strike out for cheap lands far from cities and towns. Not one of these will ever have the mind poisoned by the doctrine of land held in common, with no individual titles. They can not be made to see any remedy for poverty in that direction.

Land is cheaper all up and down the Pacific coast than it ever will be again, with the few exceptions where a speculative interest has prevailed.

It is easier now to acquire small holdings in the country, and lots in cities, than it probably will be at any future day because the rapid increase of population will be making constant demands for land at greater prices. The one consideration above all others that is drawing immigration to this coast is comparatively cheap land. Those who aim for it, whether in small parcels or larger ones, whether in the direction of the improved lots in the suburbs of the cities, or farms in remote places, are pretty sure to adopt the best possible remedy for poverty. They may not become rich, but they will not be abjectly poor. They will find in the very reversal of the George and McGlynn school of theorists the surest and best possible antidote for poverty. The dissipated, idle and thrifless element will never look in that direction. Nothing can be more attractive to them than any process which can divest the gains of the industrious, temperate and enterprising, and distribute these gains among those who have nothing, and never will have anything as the result of steady industry. The new remedy for poverty is mere quackery. The old remedy is still a good one; and in no part of the world is the antidote for poverty so completely within the reach of the masses as right here on the Pacific coast.

The census year began on the first of this month. Soon the census enumerators will be appointed and begin their duties. We need to have a full, complete census taken of this state by competent men, so as to make a good showing in the national round up of 1890.

The perplexed editor of a state exchange wants to know how to get out one issue of his paper "that will offend nobody." Easy enough, brother. Print nothing on either side of the sheet but the date line.

BEN BURROUGHS of the Pendleton Tribune has been appointed postmaster there. Just how a man can run a newspaper and a post-office with justice to both, is a question that awaits solution.

THERE are just 100,000 children of school age in Oregon, that is, of an age entitling them to draw school money—about one-third of the population.

The Democrat says that Albany is in for "anything that will result in an outlet from Astoria to the rest of the world."

BISHOP WILBERFORCE says the faith cure will cure dyspepsia. Not much, it won't. But hot water will.

Exact Facts Concisely Stated.

Rhode Island, after having experimented with constitutional prohibition for three years, has repealed the law by more than the necessary three-fifths vote. This is a defeat of prohibition in a much broader sense than is an adverse vote on the question in the first place. While an important change is being urged it does not get beyond the realm of individual opinion, and the matter of its adoption or rejection cannot be said to be a defeat in the fullest sense of the word, to the side that is voted down. The opinion of the people on the subject has simply been secured. If, however, a majority of voters decree that a change shall be made, the question at once assumes the dignity of a legitimate experiment sanctioned and protected by law, and the issue is placed on trial for its life. It matters little whether or not this trial is fair and impartial in its details. If, after a few years, more or less the action of the people is reversed concerning it, its defeat is overwhelming. Constitutional prohibition was defeated in Pennsylvania a few days ago, not after trial but on a proposition to try it; it was repealed Thursday in Rhode Island after a trial of three years, presumably, at least, upon the ground that it did not accomplish what was expected of it. The result was repulse in the one instance; in the other it was a defeat that extends beyond the limits of the locality that decreed it. Theory finds itself unable to combat successfully an obstacle so formidable as a fact of this kind furnishes, and though the enormous adverse vote of Pennsylvania gave a staggering blow to the constitutional prohibition idea, it remained for little Rhode Island to defeat it squarely upon ground upon which its advocates had been busy for three years in entrenching themselves. Oregonian, 22.

A LUCKY TRIAL.

The Good Fortune Which Followed. It affords me great pleasure to send to you this voluntary statement of my experience in testing the merits of Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla. For the past five years I have been troubled with an exceedingly sluggish liver, including loss of appetite and distress after eating, pains in the back and kidneys, and boils around my neck and face. I tried many liver remedies, only getting temporary relief. I was recommended to try a bottle of Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla as a test, and while taking the first bottle I became convinced of its merits, for I could feel that it was working a change in me. I took five bottles, and during that time my troubles left me. Everything is working full and regular, in fact it has cleansed, purified and braced me up generally. You are at liberty to use this as you see fit, or can refer whom you please to.

Beaumont, 3d and Market sts., S. F.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Specials to The Astorian.

An Incendiary Fire at Vancouver.

PORTLAND, June 22.—The defense in the trial of Sandy Olds for the murder of Emil Webb, rested their case at 4:30 P. M. Only one witness, Dragan, was called in rebuttal when the court adjourned. The defense seems to have lost some of their nerve.

THE VANCOUVER FIRE.

VANCOUVER, W. T., June 22.—Fire swept through the business section of Vancouver last night, destroying the principal part of four blocks of frame buildings lying east and west of Main street. The total loss is about \$50,000 and possibly \$60,000 on which there is a small percentage of insurance. A good proportion of that is in Seattle companies.

There were two fires during the night. Both were undoubtedly of incendiary origin.

At 11:30 the night watchman in the vicinity of the old Catholic church about half a mile from the business center of town discovered flames in the ruin (they were little) according to his statement the flames burst up like wild fire, the smoke heavy with the odor of burning petroleum. He fired his revolver as an alarm. The city department as well as that from the garrison quickly responded. At 4:30 the fire was under control and at 5 o'clock when the Portland engine with chief Morgan and fire commissioner Story arrived on the Oklahama only the ruins were blazing fitfully. The Portlanders soon had a stream from the river enabling the Vancouver firemen to take much required rest. There were but few insurance risks in the burnt district held by Oregon companies or insurance companies represented in Portland. The exact amount cannot be definitely learned at present as several agencies are as yet in doubt regarding the matter and have sent three men to examine the situation.

The Nehalem Road.

The commissioners, Chance, Bender and Raymond appointed to view and report on that portion of the road from Olney to the Columbia county line, have filed their report with the county court.

The report recommends that the road be divided into two sections: section one to be from Olney to Jewell, with seven bridges between, and section two to be from Jewell to the east line of Clatsop county, with twelve bridges between. They also recommend that the entire road be graded to a solid base of eight feet in width, and that the contract for the building of the road be let in two sections.

The expenses of the viewers were \$334.92.

Accompanying the report are the field notes of the surveyor.

On the proposed road, the road would run from Olney in a southeasterly direction, Ts. 6 N., 7 and 8 W., and T. 5 N. 7 W., to Jewell, then runs along the north bank of the Nehalem following the meanderings of that stream to the county line 6 N. 6 W.

Eupespy.

This is what you ought to have, in fact, you must have it, to fully enjoy life. Thousands are searching for it daily, and mourning because they find it not. Thousands upon thousands of dollars are spent annually by our people in the hope that they may attain this boon. And yet it may be had by all. We guarantee that Electric Bitters, if used according to directions and the use persisted in, will bring you Good Digestion and out the demon dyspepsia and instead Eupespy. We recommend Electric Bitters for Dyspepsia and all diseases of Liver, Stomach and Kidneys. Sold at 50c. and \$1.00 per bottle by J. W. Conn, Druggist.

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THE LADIES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL Church will serve hot tea and coffee, sandwiches, etc., in one of the buildings formerly occupied by M. C. Crosby, on the 4th of July, 1889.

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1 Patent Rip Saw Machine.
1 Patent Jig " "
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Above machines are for Foot or Hand Power, and will be sold cheap, for cash.
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