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TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

OREGON AND WISCONSIN

Taxes are unusually high in every county in Oregon this year. The property has been listed by the assessors at practically actual value, while the rate has not been cut down to correspond with the increased valuation.

The Oregon plan differs from that of Wisconsin, where state taxes have been entirely wiped out by a system of legislation fathered by Governor LaFollette, now United States senator. The state is now building a new state capitol, to cost from \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000; expenses of maintaining its government are heavy, and yet its people are not to be called upon to pay one penny of state tax this year.

Under the law a school tax of one mill must be levied, annually, yet so plethoric is Wisconsin's pocketbook that half the amount required for the schools will be paid out of the state treasury, leaving half a mill tax as the only state burden imposed upon property owners.

Civil war claims to the amount of over \$1,000,000 have been collected, together with back taxes from the railroads. But Wisconsin's financial prosperity is due principally to the laws requiring corporations to bear a greater share of the general burden than they have done in the past.

With a generous balance in the treasury at the beginning of the year and a revenue expected from corporations more than equal to meeting the running expenses of government, why not relieve the people of a state tax?

Were it not for the building of a new capitol the entire school tax would have been paid from the treasury, and the people would now be enjoying the unique distinction of remaining absolutely untaxed for state purposes.

No wonder his colleagues in the United States senate hate LaFollette; he does not serve the railroads, corporations and trusts as they do—and moreover, he wears no collar, but thinks and acts for himself.

The country needs more LaFollettes.

Why should men seek to be remembered after they have passed to dust? Millionaire Charles L. Freer, of Detroit, Michigan, has just presented the Smithsonian institute at Washington a \$600,000 collection of paintings and works of art, together with \$500,000 to provide a suitable home for the bequest; with \$400,000 for additions to be made by the donor. It is not unreasonable to provide that the gift shall bear the Freer name, but self esteem crops out unusually big in the provision that nothing shall ever be added to or taken from the collection. It must be and remain Freer forever.

Simon Guggenheim, who got the popular vote of Colorado for United States senator, thinks there was nothing wrong in his putting large sums of money into the canvass to help elect legislators. "I helped elect those men, now they should help elect me," says Simon. Some

old-fashioned people would say there is too much of bargain and sale in such an election. That is just about what the United States senate has come to—a bargain and sale body.

The naming of steamers from persons is responsible for queer statements occasionally. These in the Oregonian the other day were two headlines of separate steamer news items, one following the other: "Alice McDonald Fast on Split" and "Rufus E. Wood in the River."

When young men are told that the demand for specialists in all lines exceeds the supply the facts are overstated, certainly as to one line, and it may be as to others. Proof can be found on all sides that the supply of expert liars is largely in excess of the demand.

Baffled by the drifting ice from reaching the north pole by a few hundred miles, Commander Peary would go west of the pole, toward Asia, and let the drift of the ice take him to the coveted pole. Sounds very reasonable and easy, but—

The question, who's doing the lying about Cuba? seems pertinent. Officially we are told that everything is lovely on the island; unofficially that the arms and ammunition are in the hands of the natives and that fighting may begin any day.

Congress isn't doing any kicking about executive encroachment in the handling of Cuba. It is afraid the president might transfer the job to the legislative branch of the government.

When there is no corporate over-capitalization there will be no extortionate prices, but when that will be is more than our prophetic machine is geared to say.

There seems to be surprise in some quarters at the announcement of Senator-elect Guggenheim that he should not carry the smelter trust into the senate.

Somehow our share of the \$180,000,000 of January dividends failed to arrive. We should hate to suspect postal officials of holding it up.

Control of the machinery appears to have been as valuable in insurance elections as in political.

Alas, There is to Be No Pass.
(Salem Journal.)

It is stated that there are to be no passes for the members of the state legislature.

What will they receive? Of course it will not be the cash.

But how can they go on junketing trips to visit the normal schools unless they have passes?

How can they take long trips to the fish hatcheries of Washington and then charge up mileage?

How can the members of the legislature ever run down to Portland once a week to get instructions without free passes?

How can they afford to have their committee clerk travel with them without free passes?

It will be simply awful to have to stay in Salem and have to live on three dollars a day.

We feel for you, gentlemen, but we cannot reach you. Some new way will have to be devised to meet expenses.

This cannot be said for the virtue of the Oregon legislature: They did not deprive themselves of passes.

There is left one device for raising pin money. Make the clerks divvy, and pay the clerks mileage.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The mayor of Chicago vetoed an ordinance permitting vivisection in medical colleges. It means animals shall not be cut up alive.

The attorney general of New York has brought suit to oust Mayor McClellan, on the ground that Hearst was legally elected mayor of Greater New York city.

On the basis of full valuation the county court of Lane county has made a levy of fourteen mills, four mills more than that of the county. The total Eugene levy will be 34 1/2 mills, 6 1/2 mills more than that of Albany.—Albany Democrat.

John Henry Allen Swackhammer, the darky preacher in Eugene a few weeks ago, has been in Portland, where he reported having been held up and robbed of \$11. A very good

American Dramatic Art Is In a Poor Way

By Dr. LUDWIG FULDA, Eminent German Dramatist and Poet

IN rich America the dramatic art is the POOREST of all the arts. Public bodies and private citizens vie with one another in patronizing and promoting the other arts, BUT THEY IGNORE THE THEATER. They think it is not good enough to deserve subsidies. The drama is on the very lowest rung of the ladder.

America has not yet bred a dramatist, and still her theaters produce almost entirely home plays—light burlesque and comedy, melodrama, spectacular pieces in which revolvers play the chief part. Problem plays are tabooed. There is too much of the PRUDE in American playgoers to permit this.

Now and again one hears Shakespeare, NEVER SYSTEMATICALLY, and of the best of what Europe produces Americans know next to nothing. Managers go on playing the same piece night after night as long as it fills their coffers. This is love of art! IT STIFLES ART.

Then the star system! In the playbill the name of the piece is printed small; that of the STAR is in flaming letters. It is only the star the American theatergoer wishes to see.

Nowhere in the world have I seen such beautiful actresses. Nowhere have I seen such ARTLESS DRAMATIC STAGING and such an artless public.

The men who write for the American stage are to be envied. They need not bother about dramatic technique. IT WOULD BE LOST ON THEIR PATRONS. Their dramatic personae can come and go how and when they like. Motive is not necessary.

IN THE LAND OF WONDERFUL MECHANICAL INVENTIONS THE STAGE MACHINERY IS THE MOST PRIMITIVE; EVEN THE MOST ORDINARY APPARATUS IS MISSING.

A Poem for Today

Alas, How Easily Things Go Wrong!

By George Macdonald

ALAS, how easily things go wrong!
A sigh too much or a kiss too long,
And there follow a mist and a weeping rain,
And life is never the same again.

Alas, how hardly things go right!
'Tis hard to watch on a summer's night,
For the sigh will come, and the kiss will stay,
And the summer's night is a winter's day.

And yet how easily things go right—
If the sigh and the kiss of a winter's night
Come deep from the soul in the stronger ray
That is born in the light of a winter's day.

And things can never go badly wrong
If the heart be true and the love be strong.
For the mist, if it comes, and the weeping rain
Will be changed by the love into sunshine again.

A Poem for Today

VICTOR

By Eugene F. Ware (Ironquill)

HE was a hero, fighting all alone,
A lonesome warrior, never one more brave—
Discreet, considerate and grave.
He fought some noble battles, but he gave
No voice to fame and passed away unknown.

So grandly to occasions did he rise,
So splendid were the victories he planned,
That all the world had asked him to command
Could it his native valor understand.
He fought himself and, winning, gained the prize.

story, except art \$11 and holdup parts, says the Albany Democrat.

Advance sheets, addressed in purple, are being received already, telling of the big Elk annual convention in Philadelphia next July. One hundred thousand dollars has been raised for their entertainment. On the back of the envelopes are the words: "High Water Mark at Philadelphia July 15-20, 1907."

Frank Davey, candidate for speaker of the house in the next legislature, who has been missing since Thursday night, reached Portland yesterday and after meeting his wife at the home of her brother, J. N. Peary, 469 Seventh street, North, left with her for St. Johns. He returned to Portland later and met his political friends in an effort to stop the landslide which has been started against him on account of his unaccountable disappearance. This information was given by his brother-in-law, J. N. Peary, late in the afternoon. It now looks as if W. I. Vawter would have a walk-over for speaker.

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It may be slow as judgment may or as the snail begins your way
When evening dews are wet,
But you can bet your last lone dime
That he will get you every time.
For he is sure as debt.

Not Overlooking Anything.
"She looks like a resourceful woman."
"Resourceful! Say, she threatens to sue a man for breach of promise, basing her suit on half a dozen curt letters asking her to pay a bill."

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Suspicious.
"What is the outlook for the depositors of the defunct bank?"
"Dark. It has just been announced that the bank will pay in full."

Sly Jack.
Jack Frost comes with fingers light,
Touches up your window
Just to show in gleaming white
What an artist kin do.

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FOR SALE—Ten acres of the choicest river bottom land in the county, within a half mile of Eugene. For particulars enquire of Edith Linton, 'Phone Farmers' 33. j10

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Fine stock ranch with plenty of spring water for irrigating purposes. See Lee Hoselton, Oregon Cigar Store.

FOR SALE—Small house and lot on Oak Street. Good location, with sufficient room to build on the corner. Call at or address Room 1, No. 518 Willamette street. tf

FOR SALE—Household goods, including two extension tables, - full leaf table, 1 kitchen table, 1 cupboard, feather bed, etc. Call at 394 East Eleventh street. j9

STORE FOR SALE—General merchandise store at Mapleton for sale. Good business and outlook excellent for increasing trade in future. Private reasons for selling. Address F. C. Bean, Mapleton, or see L. E. Bean, Eugene, as to price and terms. tf

FOR SALE—Horse, harness and buggy for sale; also pair of Indian Runner ducks, sixty homing pigeons, two incubators and two brooders. Frank Dunlap, on West Sixth street, two blocks west of Blair street, Eugene. Write or see him.

WANTED

HELP WANTED—Manager for branch office we wish to locate here in Eugene. Address, with references, The Morris Wholesale House, Cincinnati, Ohio.

WANTED—Elderly man to run ranch on Siuslaw, must be steady, sober and industrious and understand stock and farming. Yearly job for the right parties. For particulars apply at Guard office. d & wj4

WANTED IMMEDIATELY—Young men, over 18, good physique, to prepare for examination for railway mail clerks in Oregon. Permanent government positions. Fine salaries, fine futures. Write at once, E. O. Heynen, 315 Columbia Bldg., Portland, Or.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—The Mapleton Hotel, furnished complete. For terms apply to R. H. Clow, Mapleton, Or. j15

MISCELLANEOUS

ESTRAY—Came to my place on W. H. Griffin place, Fall Creek, the first of October, a two-year-old heifer. Owner can have same by proving property and paying for this advertisement and expense of keeping. W. H. Griffin, Fall Creek Oregon. tf

HOMESTEAD CLAIMS—INFORMATION WANTED—Do you know of a homestead with any reasonable amount of timber on it that is not being nor has not been lived on? If so address "X.Y.Z." lock box 421, Eugene, Oregon, and later it may be made profitable to you by a responsible party. Location and description of land not asked for to start with. Any information later will be held strictly confidential and paid for. j15

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