

The EUGENE DAILY GUARD

CHARLES H. FISHER E. J. FINNERAN

Subscription Rates—Daily	
Delivered by Carrier, per week	\$1.15
Delivered by Carrier, one month	5.50
Delivered by Carrier, one year	50.00
By Mail, on year, in advance	4.00
Single Copies	.05
Twice-a-Week Guard, per year	1.50
Three Months	.50

MONDAY, NOV. 13, 1911

THE TWO PILGRIMS.

"The road is fierce," one pilgrim said, complaining; "the doggone hills are most absurdly high; it's always sizzling when it isn't raining, and storms are brewing in the northern sky. The road is fierce; its obstacles frighten me, my feet are full of sandbars and the like, and farmers' dogs come running out to bite me, and so, methinks, I'll cease to hit the pike. I'll just sit here upon this granite boulder, and wait and watch, and hope for better things, and passing pilgrims, stronger far and bolder, may give me hand-outs as they pass by jinks." "The road is good," one pilgrim said, serenely; "I like these hills, they test my wind and brawn." And on he skipped, with carriage high and queenly, heart unafraid, and face toward the dawn. He sang glad songs, he cut up happy ditties, whenever he met a man he won a friend; he braved the storms and chased the barking Fidos, and won the gaudion at the journey's end.

WALT MASON.

Copyright, 1911, by George Matthew Adams.

WALT MASON.

Copyright, 1911, by George Matthew Adams.

RAISE THE REQUIRED PERCENTAGE

In a letter to the Portland Journal C. B. Moores advocates the raising of the percentage of signatures necessary to invoke the referendum or to initiate any measure. He thinks a provision requiring at least 10 per cent of the votes cast would put an end to such abuses as those shown by Parkison's University referendum petitions. The Journal disagrees with Mr. Moores for the following reasons:

"Mr. Moores argues that an increased percentage would diminish the number of measures on the ballot. So it would, but would it not be better to experiment further before making such a change. It is true that the ballot has been encumbered with numerous measures, but the late legislature attempted to consider 725 bills in 40 days.

"The initiative and referendum are yet new, and people, as is always the case with new things, are prone to over-use them. May it not be that with further time their use will be less frequent and the system become self-regulative? In any event, until we are further informed, is it not better to await developments?

"Oklahoma requires a percentage of fifteen for both the initiative and referendum, and information from there is that the system is practically useless. If, in addition to raising the percentage in Portland, the citizen be required to go to the city hall to sign a petition, it will be nullified here. The latter requirement brings into the case the indifference of men as to public affairs, and indifference is a chief source of misgovernment and bad government.

"Raise the percentage to ten, and require citizens to go to the city hall to sign petitions, and the initiative and referendum will be hamstrung. The system will be dead."

The Journal is wrong in its conclusions, or if it is right then the initiative and referendum should be killed. If a measure is of so little public importance that 10 per cent of the people do not take interest enough to sign the petitions, there can be no real popular demand for it. If one voter in ten does not care to have a measure held up or initiated it ought not to be done. The provisions of the law as now constituted are farcical and guarantee a traffic in fictitious and illegal names by crooks like Parkison as long as they remain as they are. Mr. Moore's suggestion to raise the percentage, and the prosecution of forgers engaged in the business of petition circulation, would do wonders toward strengthening the "Oregon system" with the more honest and intelligent class of voters. Just now it is in very bad repute, except among cheap demagogues and grafters who, like Parkison, are quick to see the possibilities of questionable gain.

AGE OF COLLEGE GRADUATES

President Schurman, of Cornell University, in his annual report, gives some interesting figures on the average age of the graduating classes of recent years.

Mr. Schurman finds the medium age—that is, the age which has just as many men above it as below it—that is older and younger, for the men in the classes of 1890, 1900, 1905 and 1910 in the different courses follow in years and months:

Arts, 22, 1-4; law, 22, 9 1-2; mechanical engineering, 23, 0 1-4; architecture, 23, 6 1-4; civil engineering, 23, 6 3-4; agriculture, 23, 8 1-3; medicine, 23, 10 2-3.

From these figures it is seen that many enter the university as old as twenty-one, for the youngest graduate must be at least twenty years old to have completed a four-year course after entering at sixteen, the lowest age accepted.

Senator Gore says his mind is not fully made up as to the desirability of the recall provision for judges, and is willing that Oregon should try it first. But after a while Oregon will object to being used as an experiment station for the rest of the nation.

Whether the commission charters are adopted or not, Eugene will continue to grow and prosper.

The early setting in of winter may stop railroad construction in Oregon, except in the newspapers.

RAISING INITIATIVE

PERCENTAGES.
(Portland Journal.)
Portland, Nov. 10.—To the Editor of The Journal.—We are informed in an editorial published in your columns last evening that the Simon charter committee has incorporated a provision in its proposed charter to the effect that "petitions from ten per cent of the voters shall be necessary to apply the initiative or referendum, and that petitions shall be signed only at the city hall." In the past commented upon the abuse of the initiative and referendum, say "These requirements are so radical an attempt to restrict the use of the initiative and referendum that any charter embodying them will be overwhelmingly rejected, as it ought to be." Your editorial gives no reason why such a provision should be rejected, and offers no evidence that it will not receive popular support. There are many reasons for believing that any charter which does not restrict the use of the initiative or referendum, as you permit us to say, ought to be. You have frequently in the past commented upon the abuse of the initiative and referendum.

Heart to Heart Talks.

By EDWIN A. NYE.

BLAMING THE WOMAN.

"She gave me of the tree." That was Adam's excuse for disobeying the law.

And ever since Adam, whatever may happen, it has been man-like to put the onus of the thing, lay the blame for it, on the woman.

Eve is still the scapegoat.

Adam, you remember, was the first man who was put under moral law. He had a fine chance. He was made sole proprietor of a big garden; also he was given to be his helpmate; the only woman in all the world.

Adam could not stand so much prosperity.

He fell. Nor did he fall upward, as some would have it. He fell down—way down, low down.

Brought to book, he pleaded guilty. And then—did I not say he fell down?—he looked about for somebody upon whom he could lay the blame. And in that pang of the hour he said:

"The woman whom thou gavest to be with me she gave me of the tree."

And the implication of this first lord of creation seems to have been that had it not been for the woman he would yet remain a bright and shining light in Eden.

In his "plea of confession and avoidance," as the lawyers would call it, Adam cautiously admits that he did participate with the woman in his own disobedience.

"The woman tempted me."

Coward!

Adam, however, was not quite so bad as that Chicago doctor who recently confessed that he was married to two wives and killed one of them. His excuse for the crime was the statement that—

"She had nagged him."

Comparatively few men kill their wives and then blame the weaker vessel for the crime. But ever since the first man made a fool of himself and tried to hedge the average husband manifests a disposition or predisposition to put the blame for his own misdoings upon the woman whom the Lord has given to be with him.

It is the exceptional man—if, O woman, you have such a one cherish and keep him—it is the rare man who will fairly and squarely own up his fault and leave the woman out of it.

and protested against methods that have forced upon the voters the consideration of 30 or 40 measures at a general election, two thirds of which they have rejected when given a chance to vote upon them. This abuse has grown out of the loose provisions of the law governing the filing of petitions. The most disgraceful political episode in the history of Oregon, either under the old system or the new, is the so-called Parkison university referendum. It reeks with corruption from the original inveigling of the president of the university into a north end chow house to lay the foundation for a false charge of bribery, to the final filing of a petition, which it has been demonstrated, was loaded down with thousands of fraudulent signatures. What made this abuse possible but the loose provisions of a law that makes filing of a referendum a mere matter of barter and sale? With a promised reward of seven cents a name for every signature attached to two referendum petitions, "name chasers" combed the streets, the cigar stands and the saloons, and then supplemented their work by forcing thousands of names. Out of 14,000 names secured, the defendants in the action now being prosecuted, admitting the shameless abuses charged, claim that they have at least 6,000 valid signatures. And what proportion of these 6,000 are a plea about the outcome? It is a matter of common experience that any kind of a petition can secure thousands of signatures. People sign to rid themselves of the importunities of the circulators, and many do so on the plea that it will do them no harm to encumber the ballot with just one more measure. The most meritorious law can thus be practically nullified until the next ensuing election, and to set aside a fraudulent petition, the friends of a law, besides being subjected to all the delays and annoyances of litigation, are subjected to an expense of thousands of dollars, as in the case of the university referendum.

Neither the initiative or referendum should be treated as either a fetish or a plaything. Nothing will sooner discredit them than a continuation of the abuses referred to. The "name chaser" should be driven out of business. The people are entitled to protection from his importunities and the forgery of petitions should be made impossible. A law requiring ten per cent of the voters to validate a petition, and requiring them to sign in the presence of a public official is in the interest of good government. Before a man can vote he must either be vouched for by six freeholders or go before a public official to register. The signing of an initiative or referendum petition is just as solemn and sacred a political function as is the casting of a vote at the polls. If at least ten per cent of the voters are not willing to go before a public official to sign a referendum petition then there is no such demand for it as to justify the encumbering of the ballot with it, or inviting all the confusion and expense and scandal that are involved in the present method. We can conceive of no valid reason why any friend of the existing law should object to a provision that will put an end to the evils referred to.

CHAS. B. MOORES.

HAMPTON'S DAYLIGHT STORE

Corner of Sixth and Willamette Streets

Eugene's Largest and Best Suit House

News to Delight Women Needing a New Suit or Coat for Thanksgiving



It is needless to tell you that no other store in Eugene can show you such immenseselection in Ladies' Suits and Coats. So with every Garment Reduced the response should be tremendous. We wish to place additional emphasis on the fact that not a single Garment will be held in reserve. These Reduced Prices afford Savings that will immediately appeal to every Intending Purchaser Visiting this Section.

\$20.00 SUITS	\$14.00
\$22.50 SUITS	15.00
\$25.00 SUITS	17.00
\$27.50 SUITS	18.50
\$30.00 SUITS	20.00
\$32.50 SUITS	22.50
\$35.00 SUITS	24.00

\$45 Blue Diagonal Suit \$30.00

Jacket trimmed in fringe, long shawl collar, fastened with 3 large buttons. Fancy Skirt, overskirt effect of diagonal with foundation of velvet.

\$30 Brown Corduroy Suit \$20.00

Plain, Fancy Mixtures and Reversible Coats

\$25.00 values	\$17.00	\$27.50 values	\$18.00
\$30.00 values	\$20.00	\$35.00 values	\$24.00

Guaranteed Genuine Sealette Coats

\$30.00 values	\$20.00	\$34.00 values	\$23.00	\$50.00 values	\$34.00
----------------	---------	----------------	---------	----------------	---------

\$18 Caracul Coats Reduced to \$13.50

\$20.00 values	\$14.00	\$27.50 values	\$18.50	\$30.00 values	\$20.00
----------------	---------	----------------	---------	----------------	---------

\$60 Black Chiffon Broadcloth Coats \$40

\$37.50 Black Chiffon Broadcloth Coat \$25

Thanksgiving Sale of Splendid Furs

\$95.00 Red Alaskan Fox Fur Set, Reduced to	\$72.00
\$85.00 Gray Wolf Fur Set, very handsome	\$64.00
\$40.00 Set of Furs	\$30.00
Other Sets Reduced in Proportion	

Trimmed Hats, Feathers, Novelties, and shapes at Half and Less than Half-Price

\$10.00 Trimmed Hats	\$3.98	\$12.00 to \$14.00 Trimmed Hats	\$4.98
5 dozen Shapes worth from \$1.50 to \$5.00 go at .98c			