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REFERENDUM NOT NEW.
The initiative and referendum are now properly subjects of discussion. Generally, opinion favors the referendum, while looking askance at the initiative.

In one sense, the law that must be enacted in answer to the voters' decision is not an experiment. The referendum has been in force in many places for many years. We have it here in Portland.

School Directors meet and decide that a given sum of money must be raised by taxation for the maintenance of the schools during the coming year. They name the amount needed in mills tax upon the property of the district, and then the taxpayers go to the polls and endorse or reject the proposal of the Directors. It is the referendum, purely and simply.

In Portland, last Monday, the referendum was used in deciding whether or not the free kindergartens should become a part of the public school system. The School Directors embodied it in their call for the annual school election, and it was referred to the voters to decide directly.

Here we have had the referendum in operation for these many years, and many persons have not realized it. So that when the proposition was submitted to incorporate into the organic law of the commonwealth the initiative and referendum, there were numbers of voters who looked upon the whole matter as one strange and unheard of, excepting from agitators who had recently urged it before the people's attention.

The initiative is different, and yet it is difficult to discover wherein it holds possibilities of danger to the people's interests. It merely places within the power of the people to order their Legislators to enact into statute whatever may appeal to the people as probably good law. It is a weapon of offense in the hands of the voters. The referendum is a weapon of defense. It will, when used, enable the people to condemn acts of their representatives. Just as the initiative will enable them to force action when it seems likely that other influences are going to prevent the Legislature from carrying into effect the will of their constituencies.

TO THE NATIONAL DEMOCRACY
The National Democracy should learn from the Oregon election wisdom to guide them in their course. The election here in this state meant nothing if it did not mean that rational expansion is the desire of the people of this region. And, it is likely that average men and women here are of a kind with average men and women elsewhere. The thoughtful man reads in the election story the record of a verdict in favor of retention of the Philippines; of recognition of the title to the Eastern Islands that rests in this country of juster trade relations between these islands and this country; of causing the Constitution to follow the flag; of assuming the duty to educate and uplift the Filipinos to so high a standard as it is possible to attain; of promising such degree of self-government to them as their own development permits; with no hard and fast policy laid down as the unchangeable program that must be followed under any and all circumstances.

That these are the views of the people of this region, it is logical to conclude from the manner of the campaign. The Democratic candidate for Governor was elected against a majority of 15,000 of joint vote for the two Republican Congressional candidates, and the same virtually for the other Republican candidates. He stood upon a platform which he openly outlined in consonance with the platform herein before given, and was explicit in expressing his views. There can be no doubt that the people were concerned for this matter. They cared much that no one was elected who would stand for a "scuttling" policy. They were on the watch to see that no one of that trend was elected. Untrue as it was, they were told so persistently that the Democratic party of Oregon stood for a "scuttling" policy, that they in part at least believed it, and made sure by electing the entire

Republican ticket, excepting the Governor.
No man who stands for a policy of desertion in the Philippines may be elected to any office representative of general sentiment of the people in any state. And George E. Chamberlain could not have been elected had he not taken so high ground as he did and proclaimed his correct views from every platform upon which he spoke throughout the campaign.

AWAIT A PERSPECTIVE.
Various character sketches of Cecil Rhodes are appearing in the reviews. T. P. O'Connor, in Everybody's Magazine; John Walker, in Cosmopolitan; Walter H. Page in World's Work, present differing conceptions of the great South African ruler, for such Rhodes must be called.

It is too early yet to place Cecil Rhodes in that niche of the hall of fame in which he will remain permanently. The future must determine that. The immediate circumstances surrounding the man and his operations must be removed, before men may intelligently weigh the real meaning of the life of Rhodes.

Some of the reviewers stop to point out matters of personal weakness or strength. That is very well, of course, as a record of fact in detail. But they do not determine whether Rhodes or any other man is entitled to praise or blame for what he did here on earth. Personal weaknesses may be apparent in a given case, and yet, in spite of them, the possessor may be much greater and better than one who, in his detailed career was immaculate, and yet who did nothing for the good of his race.

Results, and results only, these are the test. It may even be said, with due respect for the theologians, that the Almighty himself, in judging men, will probably take into account results rather than negotiations. In other words, there be men who did bad things who will receive the smile of the Great Ruler, while others who never positively sinned will see only frowns. Positive results, results that make for the betterment of men, for the elevation of the race, for the advancement of the peoples of the earth along the pathway of freedom, these be just tests to apply to men after they die, or while they live.

Daniel Webster drank liquor, drank too much. Yet it would be a strange God who would fail to accord to a Webster rewards for a valued lifework.

Cecil Rhodes is to be judged by the permanent effect of what he did in South Africa. He is to be praised or blamed only after the future has said what were the effects of his operations in that region.

And we are too close to the years when he ruled and disposed there, ruled although he wore no crown, nor wielded scepter, excepting the sceptre of strong mind and dominating purpose.

JUNE AND THE ROSES.
We are as proud of our climate as if we made it. These Junes are ours and ours only. They have no competitors, and we mean to appropriate them without the consent of any other nation on earth. For years we were obliged to rest under a supposed obligation to the Japan current for the temperance of our climate, but a writer in a current magazine has demonstrated to his satisfaction and to ours, that this current has no more to do with the matter than the Gulf stream has to do with the climate of Great Britain—that is to say, nothing at all. Thus we are relieved from that debt, and can claim our own again, with some slight recognition to the help of the Almighty.

And with the June, the roses. A city of roses is full of poetical suggestions. Fragrance appeals to the most subtle, the most spiritual of the senses. It steals into our darker musings with a mild and gentle sympathy that drives away their sharpness as we are aware. Form and color conspire to spiritualize the rough materialities of life. The richness of the red rose types the passionate heart, that counts the world for naught in the presence of its beloved, the white its white companion makes its pure appeal in the unworded language of its delicate petals.

And the roses are ours, too—ours by divine right of our balmy airs and our intelligent selection. We are their authors. Nature gives us the roots and fibres, the raw material and the pigments of her palette, but her unlearned hand is guided by the spirit of mortal man to fashion the convolutions that blush or pale under the midnight stars of June. And so when Mr. Frederick Holman infuses in the veins of his flower children the proper fertilizers and the poetry of his soul, his glowing garden bursts in that silent chorus of color that, evading the ear's typhoon, sings only to the inner spirit.

June and the roses and the arching sky! Forgotten is trade and unheard the politician's ring.

AN IMPLIED CONTRACT.
There is good sense and not bad law in the suggestion made in yesterday's Journal by John Gill, member-elect of the Legislature, that the legal bearings of the flat salary question are somewhat affected by the contract, read or implied of all officers elected this year. The understanding on the part of the people was that the flat salary issue was the chief one in the campaign, and they expect their officers and Legislators to place the

constitutional provisions in effect. There was no doubt concerning the pre-eminence of the salary question and allied issues during the contest that was waged prior to June 2 by the two parties. The voters had it clearly in mind, and demanded acceptance of the flat salary regime under the new administration.

There can be no opposition to the proposition excepting by the quibblers who are willing to dally with foolish technicalities, or those who have personal interests in preventing the execution of the will of the people.

Either class is represented in the state, though they are in such decided majority as to render their position untenable, in view of the law and the right of the majority to have their wishes respected.

If the organic law of the commonwealth be not observed; if the existing practices be continued, the people will be entitled to conclude that representative government is a farce, and our system of laws—statutory and constitutional—need have no agreement the one with the other.

It is easier to sit in an office, smoking a Havana cigar, and criticize officers who are chasing bloodthirsty convicts than to shoulder a gun and go out and take them. There were some hundreds of this former class who are doing lots of talking just now. They are of a kind of people who lay in the sutler's tent during war and in later years talked regarding the accomplishments and dangers of battle. Yet one cannot resist the temptation to remark that the officers all came home without a scratch or mark from the tremendous force against which they went. For all of which let us give devout thanks.

There is yet cavernous silence regarding the United States Senatorial candidate favored by the Republican Legislative Representatives from this county. And there is consuming curiosity on the part of the people as to who is to be supported by the Multnomah.

Stemmen, cannot you relieve the suspense? We would all like to know whom you favor. Is it Mr. Fulton, Mr. Scott, Mr. Geer, or who is it?

Let's see—did not we hear continued agitation for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people? Why this question as to whether or not it be a good thing, now that some candidate's shoes are pinching? Is this the conclusion—direct election of Senators is a thing to favor in interims between elections, and then to oppose when elections come?

Having named the officers of the Lewis and Clark Fair, let the citizens stand behind them without question in all of their undertakings. They are representative men, of probity and patriotism. They will do what they think best for the great Exposition.

Is a party platform merely to get in on, instead of to remain on? The present discussion of various issues of the recent campaign makes the query pertinent.

If it be a choice between "faith and works," the logical mind will accept the works as more substantial than faith without lasting works.

Portland streets would be good places in which to drill an army—the soldiers would have no difficulty in falling in.

The property along the water front demands a fire boat for protection.

AGED TORTOISE DEAD.
"Buster," the tortoise belonging to the Zoological Park in the Borough of the Bronx, was found dead in his pen yesterday morning. An autopsy performed by Dr. Harlow showed that death was simply the result of old age, and that the organs of the creature's body were quite worn out.

"Buster" secured his name by reason of his unusual size. He was believed to be the largest and oldest tortoise in captivity, his age being estimated at 400 years. He weighed 210 pounds, and before his physical decline could carry three men on his back. With three other tortoises he was obtained from an island in the Pacific last July.

Until recently "Buster" was very lively—for a tortoise—but lately he had moped around very little. When he was found yesterday morning he was in one corner of the pen, while the other three tortoises were huddled together at the other end. Four men were required to carry the body to the reptile house.—New York Times.

"Retort Courteous."
We have all heard of the "retort coiffeuse." (An industrious German, Herr Shuch, has enabled us to make the appropriate, if not courteous, retort by compiling a list of some 2,000 insulting expressions and carefully classifying them. He first of all separates them into five fundamental classes corresponding to the different kinds of persons that we may feel called upon to insult, insults for men, insults for women, insults for either sex, insults for children, and collective insults for syndicates, groups and corporations. It used to be said that the corporations had neither bodies to be kicked nor souls to be damned, but at least according to Herr Shuch, we may pit them with withering insults. If a man should be insulted in the street or at the club he has only to pull out of his pocket the "Schimpfwörter Lexicon," and finding the appropriate expression, go one better than his adversary. If in correspondence, he wish to escape an action for slander, he need only pick out a choice insult and refer his enemy to the aforesaid lexicon, page —. Hne— What could be more easy and effective?

HINTS FOR WOMEN

SILK UNDERWEAR.
Silk underwear should be soaked half an hour in warm suds and ammonia water, allowing a tablespoonful of ammonia to a gallon of water. Rub gently with the hands, squeezing, pressing, but never scrubbing. Do not be too generous in the use of soap, and never rub directly on the garment. Use only in solution. Rinse through two clear warm waters of the same temperature as the suds, adding to the last water a little ultramarine blue and a teaspoonful of liquid gum arabic. Smooth out and hang as carefully as possible in order to avoid the wrinkles so hard to iron out of silk without injury to the fabric. When nearly dry press under maulin.

TIMELY TIPS.
The justification of a linen gown rests absolutely in its studied simplicity. Elaborateness of any description is completely out of place, unless, of course, it chances to be some exclusive hand embroidery or applications of lace. Plain linen skirts surmounted by embroidered linen boleros are counted among the things that are chic.

The fashionable woman of the day makes a point of keeping up an inexhaustible supply of white shirts, since nothing looks nicer, or is more in keeping with the bolero or open-fronted coat. Fashioned of really good material and real lace, these clean over and over.

FOR A CHILD'S PARTY.
"We are going to have a party," begin the invitations to the children's parties. They are pretty little cards, with figures of children in colors upon them, and words of invitation ready to be filled in with names and dates.

PRETTY BELTWAIST HAT.
Very cool and summerish is a light straw hat trimmed with masses of white dotted chiffon carried around it in voluminous folds, covering rim, edge and all, and fastened at the back of the crown with two big black jet cabochons, the ends of the chiffon falling over the back.

A CINDER IN THE EYE.
Don't try to get a cinder out of the eye by rubbing the injured orb; rub the other eye. If a foreign substance has lodged in the eye, and lies loosely on the surface, it may be removed by means of a camel's hair pencil dipped in oil, or with a bit of paper rolled up to the size of a quill, and moistened in the mouth.

WAISTS OF PONGEE.
Among the prettiest pongee waists are some made with a turnover to cuffs and collar embroidered in small figures, a conventional design, the work having the effect of the Russian cross stitch, though as a matter of fact it is not, and done in red and black or black with other color of the embroidery as a rule.

DON'TS FOR THE EYES.
Don't read, study or sew lying down. Don't have colored shades on the lamps. Use white or ground glass. Don't sleep opposite a window in such

OVER THE TEACUPS

A "sullen" person who "will not tell what ails himself" is a pretty hard affliction for the other person who must put up with his "stubborn fits of silence."

"Must put up with him" is rather emphatic when it applies to the other person's husband.

"This is a state of affairs that "Mrs. Jean A. V." sets forth in her letter, and she asks if "such a disposition can be cured."

"Jean"—she says her name is assumed for the occasion—should get herself into a state of mental endurance before attempting any kind of a cure. This effort will be as hard to "put up with" as the affliction itself. So, "Jean" may estimate the strain on her patience, and the wear and tear on her nerves during the experiments of reformation.

Let "Jean" make a note of the mention of "experiments," since what might mend the abominable malady known as "sulk" in one individual is likely to fall when applied to another.

No temperament is more variable than the sullen one, none more exasperating and none harder to reach.

How, then, since the "sulk" with which "Jean" has to contend belongs to her husband, she can not get entirely away from them. But she can ignore the "fits" of this sort that her nuptial mate takes on. This is what is meant by getting herself into a state of mental endurance—the endurance that can serenely rise above life's sullenness, and can hold there until he comes out of his fit, naturally, and resumes the genial association.

The wife who can do this, without comment or any show of retaliation, has the best chance of seeing a gradual diminution of her husband's sullenness, until it quite disappears.

This kind of "cure" requires the very nicest tact. It isn't easy to be serene, "quite as usual," while a husband sulks. If the wife seems too bland he assures himself she is gazing him and a bad matter is made worse. If she permits her lips to appear forced then he is likely to feel that she doesn't care a rap how he feels or acts, and again a bad matter is made worse.

It is the usual kindness, the usual attention, and the usual readiness to please that, united, may bring a sulking person into a consciousness of the meanness, injustice, cruelty and abuse of which he is guilty when addicted to the "sullen" habit.

"Jean" deserves sympathy, and the very best wishes for her success should attend her efforts to keep misery and perhaps estrangement out of her domestic realm.

It isn't possible to keep the domestic atmosphere wholesome and sweet when either party to the nuptial contract has periodic fits of sullenness, or is always ready to fall into one when the smallest incentive happens.

ANSWERING BACK.
"Nellie" is a "salesgirl" in a drygoods establishment. She has been very much disturbed by the "ugly conduct and remarks" of a patron. She "answered back

manner that a strong light will strike the eyes in awakening.

Don't have children sleep so that the morning sun shines in their face to arouse them.

THE NEW WALL COVERING.
For the spring renovation many new and charming ideas in wall coverings are to the fore. Among the daintiest are delightful French papers, with ground-work of azure, pink, dull yellow or old rose, covered with a delicate net-like tracery in white or cream exactly like Brussels designs. They are especially suited to bedrooms or drawing-rooms, where maple or Chippendale furniture prevails.

CARE OF FURS IN SUMMER.
The great secret of keeping furs in cleaning them thoroughly before they are put away. If a moth or moth egg goes with them into the closet or chest an elegant garment may be quickly spoiled. The greatest care should be taken, therefore, to beat and comb the furs clean before storing them away.

For this purpose a slender, strong stick and a regular fur comb may be used. If room is abundant an especially dark closet may be given up to the keeping of furs. In this case, paper it all over, top and bottom, with tar paper, covering this with a second coat of newspaper to prevent sticking. Here the garments may hang without crushing or wrinkling.

It is a foregone conclusion that the black taffeta coat is so conspicuous that it is long past prominent as a part of the wardrobe. It has become as much a staple as the raincoat, of cloth, the garment that has put the squeaky, shuddery, rasping mackintosh out of popularity and so lessened its numbers in all places of a wet and dreary day.

Some recently imported gowns show new features. One of pale turquoise silk has a skirt fitted around the hips in short tucks that are strapped at intervals with the same material, the strappings being secured with tiny gold buttons. The skirt flares into a shaped row of black and white silk to a depth of seven inches above the edge. The plaited bodice has a vest of white chiffon dotted in black.

A foulard gown in dark blue shows motifs on the skirt and bodice in moire of the same shade. The bodice has a vest of red chiffon splashed with pale blue silk.

A gray Louisiana gown's long skirt is arranged in wide box plaits, a very wide box plait in the center of the black being garnished with inserts of black lace over pale blue silk. The bodice is cut slightly pouffant in the front, with a square neck filled in with cream lace over white chiffon. The back is plain but admirably adjusted. At the waist line the bodice is slashed and slightly cut out, revealing lace over pale blue silk, corresponding with the finish of the back box plait of the skirt.

Just as the woman deserved—and was rebuked by the manager after the woman reported what she said to the manager. Nellie says she thinks she had a "perfect right to answer back," and feels that the manager "insulted her when he found fault."

Nellie should not forget that the manager likely carries out a certain obligation to the firm when he protects patrons, even when they are unjust with salespeople. He may not think that the patron with whom Nellie had unpleasant conversation was "exactly right"—but he wants to preserve a discipline that assures a continuation of patronage.

There are many unreasonable patrons and it wouldn't be "good business" to "answer back" unkindly on a wholesale basis. Moreover, no matter what a person says or how she conducts herself, the "salesgirl" who maintains her self-poise is perfectly courteous but not cringing, at the same time preserves her self-respect.

It sometimes happens that the irritation begins on the wrong side. The salesgirl is tired or not well and in consequence is not accommodating. Instead of making allowances for aches and worries, the patron says provoking and unkind things.

There should be mutual forbearance between a salesgirl and a patron. But when there isn't—as commercial habits are the gift who wants to keep her position would have her not "answer back."

Indeed, when all is said and done—even if the "soft answer" does not turn away wrath, what use or consolation is there in being just as mean and foolish and undignified and offensive as the other person? H. EFFA WEBSTER.

Rain of Rats.

A very strange phenomenon has occurred in Algeria. In the district round about Bougie, during the passage of a cyclone, which wrought much damage. The natives who had come into town relate that during the storm there was a regular hail of rats and mice. The story on the face of it, appears improbable, but the witnesses who testify to its truth are so numerous that some amount of credence must be attached to it. It is stated that the rodents fell in such great quantities that during the quarter of an hour that the phenomenon lasted all the fields were infested. Some of the rats and mice were found impaled on the pointed stakes employed to separate one piece of land from another. The question naturally arises: Where did the animals come from?

Bars Red Ties.

Trattmen employed by the Long Island Railroad Company must hereafter forego whatever pleasure they found in wearing neckties. A few days ago Superintendent Addison issued a general order notifying trainmen that they must keep their coats buttoned up while on duty, and that black neckties of the for-in-hand shape were the proper form of neckwear.

General Superintendent William F. Foster said yesterday that many railroad corporations had long ago undertaken to direct the men in the matter of dress, as it was necessary that the trainmen should present a neat appearance.

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