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T. T. GREEN, Editor.

SUBSCRIPTION MATTER.

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The Statesman has been established for nearly fifty-two years, and it has some subscribers who have received it nearly that long, and many who have read it for a generation. Some of these objects to having the paper discontinued at the time of expiration of their subscription. For the benefit of those, and for other reasons, we have concluded to discontinue subscriptions only when notified to do so. All persons paying when subscribing, or paying in advance, will have the benefit of the dollar rate. But if they do not pay for six months, the rate will be \$1.25 a year. Hereafter we will send the paper to all responsible persons who order it, though they may not send the money, with the understanding that they are to pay \$1.25 a year, in case they let the subscription account run over six months. In order that there may be no misunderstanding, we will keep this notice standing at this place in the paper.

CIRCULATION (SWORN) OVER 4000



IN TIMES PAST.

Speaking of the senatorial election at the special session of the Legislature in 1898 the Oregonian, while discussing the election of Mr. Simon, says:

"The circumstances of his election were such as to imbue many with the belief that treachery had been dealt somehow to the ostensible candidate, Mr. Corbett; and to impress others with the conviction that if Mr. Simon had been as energetic in Mr. Corbett's interest as in his own behalf Mr. Corbett would have been elected. It was hard to believe that members would be guided by Mr. Simon to vote for him, but could not be prevailed upon by him to vote for Mr. Corbett—the man over whose candidacy the campaign had been largely waged and in whose favor the Legislature was supposed to have been elected."

But much of this talk was evidently gratuitous and of a kind which is common after somebody has been defeated and some other body successful. The anti-Corbett Republicans were numerous enough to prevent his election and had repeatedly stated that under no circumstances would they support him. As a final compromise or concession, they said they would support any other Republican in the state whom the Corbett men would agree upon, but Corbett never. They refused to go into a Republican caucus until the friends of Mr. Corbett would agree to not present his name, and it was upon this agreement that they went in.

Mr. Fulton was the leader of this refusal to go into a Republican caucus and for the reason given. He would support any Republican the majority might agree upon but Corbett. Indeed, during the senatorial campaign which resulted in his election, when he wanted a caucus, he defended his action in 1898 by saying that at that time he opposed a caucus because he knew it would have resulted in the nomination of a man whose election he could never consent to.

Mr. Fulton and all his friends who refused to go into a caucus which would have nominated Mr. Corbett, and refused for that reason, were satisfied with Mr. Simon and regarded him as better material for a United States Senator than Mr. Corbett, and today, if such a thing were possible, they would repeat their decision as between the two men, for Mr. Simon's record in the Senate has not been seriously attacked by any one.

These are features of a contest passed, and belong to other reminiscences in Oregon politics which, if recalled, would connect many prominent men with acrimonious and not always creditable irregularities in party affairs, but with the alternative presented by a score of prominent Republicans in the session of 1898 who announced that in their judgment Mr. Corbett was the most objectionable of all possible men who could be mentioned, it is not at all certain that "if Mr. Simon had been as energetic as Mr. Corbett's interest as in his own behalf Mr. Corbett would have been elected." It would be just as near the truth to say that since Mr. Fulton and his friends regarded Mr. Simon as a better man for Senator than Mr. Corbett, they forced his election.

Health

"For 25 years I have never missed taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla every spring. It cleanses my blood, makes me feel strong, and does me good in every way."
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Ayer's Pills aid the Sarsaparilla greatly. They keep the liver active and the bowels regular.

J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

At least, it is not very sound argument at this time to assert that Mr. Simon is down now because he was preferred for Senator in 1898 to Mr. Corbett by the very men who have just succeeded in downing him, and that, too, because of their own action in electing him!

But this is all past, and let us look to the future with a hope for better sense all around and more toleration. Come to think of it, there are a few Democrats in the country that might reasonably be receiving some Republican attention now and then—just for a change.

WILL IT BE HEERED?

The Oregonian gives some excellent advice to the successful wing of the Republicans in Multnomah county to the effect, that, being in the saddle, the promptings of common sense will suggest to them the advisability of paying some attention to fair play in the management of the matters which come within their control.

It is the first duty, of course, of the defeated Republicans in that county to support the ticket which will be nominated today. This is always the first duty of defeated aspirants and their friends. And it is the course which is almost invariably followed, but there are occasions when the triumphant faction of a party so far forgets that it will need the support of the minority at the polls, in the intoxication of victory, that its treatment of them is haughty, autocratic and unbearable. This is a free country, a very free country—so free, indeed, that many voters consider themselves, though in a minority in their own party, quite as good citizens and entitled to the same courtesy, as those more fortunately basking within the sunlight of factional success.

There are a great many really free men in this country who regard themselves as not altogether "Indians" because they are in a minority. They don't like to be called Indians, either, and especially by those who desire their support at the polls. This course by those in the ascendancy within the party is not good politics, good manners or good sense. This very policy was pursued two years ago, as the Oregonian recalls with a timely recollection, and which it condemns with a timely rebuke. The result, as it reminds its readers, is a Democratic Governor by virtue of those same free men who regarded themselves as entitled to respect even though in a minority. Perhaps these men should have borne the slight and abuse in the interest of their party success, but the country is full of men who regard many things in this life of more importance than mere party regularity. The brightest men in the nation, and in all parties, have at times shown their absolute independence of party intolerance, and this method of teaching a much-needed lesson is always within the reach of the otherwise helpless voter.

Judge Carey says this kind of politics is at an end, so far as he is concerned. He intends to give the minority in the county convention in Multnomah today "a chance." This spirit will be greatly appreciated by those in the minority. Those seventeen delegates who constitute the minority can, under this purpose of Judge Carey, have about their own way in a convention composed of 130 delegates. They will be permitted to vote as a unit on any proposition that may come before the convention and, as free men, they will treasure the privilege more than words can say. At last, machine politics is at an end in Multnomah county and we rejoice in the name of that recognition of personal rights in the management of party politics for which thousands have yearned for years and years.

The Oregonian indulges some good counsel in these words:

"A minority faction that casts 5000 votes to the majority's 8000 is not to be despised. It is entitled to respectful consideration. Its support is worth having. Half of the party is not the party. Neither is two-thirds. The Simon people say they will support the organization. They will be more likely to do so heartily if they find a Simon man or two on the ticket."

The public will watch with great interest to see to what extent recognition will be given the so-called Simon men in the nominations—as well as the comment of the defeated aspirants upon such action if it shall be had.

But, in any event, it will be the duty of every Republican in Multnomah County to support the ticket which may be nominated today. There is no reason for anticipating the nomination of unfit men and the full support of the party in that county will go far toward healing the ugly wound there whose ulcerous radiations permeate, more or less, the entire state.

GOVERNMENT BY CHANCE.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court in the celebrated Merger cases by the narrow majority of one vote, and that reluctantly going to the majority with a half apology, illustrates again the element of chance that enters into a popular government. Since there must be a tribunal where all disputes can be finally settled and from which no appeal can be taken, it is necessary to designate such tribunal and to abide by its findings in the interest of orderly government, but the fact must

be noticeable to everybody that the majority, in any case, is quite as apt to be wrong as right. In fact, whether any great principle, about which men differ, is right, depends altogether upon who the judge is and, generally, what his interest in the decision may be. This is not a very exalted idea or conclusion but the fact remains as stated.

The basis for all this rests upon the circumstance that no man can proceed to believe any theory by special prearrangement with himself.

Beliefs are the result of an intellectual equipment for which men holding them are in no wise responsible. Every honest man believes what he must and not what he would like to, but cannot. No honest man ever feels a desire to believe something that he disbelieves in. If he did he would not be honest. Dr. Hill, for instance, the forceful Presbyterian minister of Portland, never grieves because he is not a Catholic, for if he did he would become a Catholic at once. He is a Presbyterian because his mental composition makes him one in spite of himself. The same may be truthfully said of the honest Catholic or Methodist.

This being true, men's beliefs are a matter of the mere chance. Two farmers, living side by side, probably graduates of the same educational institution and surrounded by practically the same circumstances, will look at economic questions so differently that one will be in favor of a protective tariff and the other an advocate of absolute free trade, and neither could help it if he wanted to—which he doesn't. No man can give any reason why Roosevelt is in favor of national expansion and many other prominent and patriotic men are not. It is not possible to decide why Washington and Jefferson should have been honestly and diametrically opposed as to the best methods of administering the national government. But the were.

And yet, great questions involving matters of the most far-reaching consequences, are decided by a majority vote of men whose opinions are the result of environment, mental and physical, for which they are in no manner responsible, and whose conclusions are of the most accidental character. The whole trend of our public policies, affecting the interests of millions of people, is frequently determined by the particular idea some one man may have of that particular question. The Merger decision by the Supreme Court is a case in hand. Here was a question supposed to be of vital importance in the business affairs of the country, affecting the rights of millions of people, decided by the opinion of one man, and he came within a fraction of going the other way! As it is, it is decided that combinations for the purpose of restraining trade in this country are illegal. But suppose he had looked at the question as did the learned Chief Justice—would such combinations then have been legal? They would, and that which has been declared wrong would have been right!

And yet, who will say that Justice Harlan, for instance, understands the question from a legal standpoint better than Chief Justice Fuller or Justice Holmes? Will some one point out the difference between thus deciding a great question and drawing straws as a means of arriving at the same result?

This uncertain method of determining great important questions was vividly illustrated in the great contest between Hayes and Tilden in January, 1877. After a protracted skirmish between the two political parties as to the political complexion of the Commission that had been agreed upon, consisting of fifteen members, it was decided that the Republicans should have seven members, the Democrats seven and the fifteenth man—was the bone of contention. The entire proceedings of Congress, for two weeks, in the effort to constitute this Commission were a confession that every member of it would decide the great question as his political affiliation would dictate, and that, therefore, there was to be no judicial examination of it whatever. And there wasn't! The Republicans refused to accept a Democrat as the fifteenth man and the Democrats refused to accept a Republican. And the men so distrustful were Justices on the bench of the United States Supreme Court—ordinarily supposed to be wholly impartial in the consideration of all public questions.

Finally both sides agreed upon Justice Davis, of Illinois, appointed by President Lincoln, an independent man in politics, and the matter was at last settled. But at that time a Senatorial deadlock was in progress in Illinois over the re-election of Senator John A. Logan, who for days lacked but one vote of an election, and immediately after the selection of Justice Davis on the Electoral Commission, an "independent" member of the lower house of the Illinois Legislature switched to Justice Davis, who had been receiving some support for several days and he was elected United States Senator. He accepted the position, making a vacancy on the Commission, and according to the terms of the law creating it, the next member of the Supreme Court in line was Justice Bradley, a Republican.

So certain was it that the decision

of the Commission would be along absolutely partisan grounds that as soon as Davis was elected Senator, the Democrats gave up all hope of seating Mr. Tilden and the Republicans, on the other hand, were then satisfied that Mr. Hayes would be declared the honestly chosen President of the United States.

Agreeing that every member of that Commission was a perfectly honest man, how can it be possible that every Democrat believed that Mr. Tilden had been lawfully elected President and every Republican saw the utmost regularity in the count which had given Mr. Hayes a majority of one in the electoral college? The mere whimsical notion which induced that member of the Illinois legislature to vote for Justice Davis insured the election of Hayes to the Presidency of the United States and decided the fiscal policy and political complexion of the Government of the United States for four years—a mere chance!

Dr. Adam Clarke devoted a life time to a researchful study of the scriptures in the original languages and published to the world that the doctrine of future endless punishment was distinctly taught by the prophets, the apostles and the Savior, while Sylvanus Cobb, an equally learned divine, gave the same extended study to the same question and informed the world that future endless punishment is nowhere taught in the original scriptures. And they were both honest men. Cobb's mind was so constituted that future punishment was abhorrent to him, hence he could find no authority for it in the scriptures, and the reverse conditions prevailed as to Dr. Clarke. The Democrats on the Electoral Commission believed that Mr. Tilden's election was necessary to the best interests of the country, hence they believed he was elected. The merging of parallel railroad lines is unlawful in this country because Justice Harlan looks at the question differently from Justice Holmes!

But, while all this is true, there is no other way to maintain a government. The decision of a majority is apt to be as uncertain and capricious as that of the minority, but since all government is a voluntary concession for the general welfare, no better system could be devised than that which we have adopted. The element of chance, however, predominates largely through it, reminding us that there are two sides to every question—our side, and the wrong side.

O. W. Dunbar, whose death occurred in Pendleton Friday, will be remembered by many of the old settlers of Salem. He was better known as "Oscar" Dunbar, and in the early sixties attended the Willamette University. In 1864 he began learning the printers trade in the Statesman office when it was located in the second story of the Murphy block, then known as the Griswold block. For a short time the present editor of the Statesman worked with him but afterward drifted into the country and became a farmer. Oscar, in after years worked at his trade in many of the coast towns and at times was the proprietor of different publications. He was the youngest son of Hon. Rice Dunbar, one of the prominent pioneer settlers in the Waldo Hills and was a brother of Hon. R. O. Dunbar, who is a graduate of Willamette University and has been an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Washington since its admission into the Union. He was also a brother of Hon. W. R. Dunbar, who was Register of the Vancouver U. S. Land at the time of his death one year ago.

No matter what the weather, when it comes time for spring to arrive the bulbs and buds become restless in their winter quarters and make a move for freedom. And no matter how strongly disposed winter may be to show her partiality for the lap of spring, the birds begin to chaff awkward wooers by their overdue sonnets, and lustily begin their musical bombardment. The evening goshawk, though somewhat belated, has been with us for several days and plainly wonders why in samphat it doesn't quit raining. The cheerful robin expresses his idea that this thing has lasted quite long enough and doesn't hesitate to tell his mate about it early in the morning just as you would like to have one more round with Morpheus. Like the frogs, when the time of year comes, the birds are going to sing, irrespective of weather conditions. You can fool all the birds a part of the time and a part of the birds all the time, but you can't fool all the birds all the time!

When Governor Chamberlain failed to reappoint George Chandler as a member of the State Board of Agriculture he carried politics into a non-partisan board further than the best interests of the State Fair will justify. Mr. Chandler is a man of extended experience on the board during the history of it since it has made a pronounced success of the State's great Agricultural Exhibition. Having just been elected President of the Board, after years of creditable experience, the failure to reappoint him was not only humiliating to him but will have a crippling effect upon the Board. We can endure a Democratic Board of Den-



From the Office Window

A New Jersey judge has decided that a man has the "legal right to rule and regulate the conduct of his wife." This is perfectly satisfactory as far as it goes, but whether this delicate procedure, extremely doubtful as to the outcome, if undertaken, is to be approached by injunction or "mandamus," is yet to be decided by some other judge before any attempt at the actual enforcement of this highly prized privilege may be generally looked for. The prudent man will be content, for the present, to rest on the banks of the Yalu River until he can see a brighter outlook for that success which under ordinary circumstances he would hardly expect.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer prints a very pretty story about the jaw-breaking names under which the Japanese war vessels sail the seas in search of wandering Russian battleships and claims them to be brim full of poetic sentiment, and adds that "poetry is concealed in the names of all the ships which have opened hostilities with the Russians in such a formidable manner." Yes, we should say it is most effectually concealed. Any reader must have noticed how completely so. But then, it is the Japanese jugglers against the world for outward deception in effectually concealing what beholders would like to see plainly displayed. Let us thank heaven that such poetry as would probably be based on the names of some of their battleships has so far been so successfully concealed.

ONTO HIS JOB.

You will find worse looking men than Jeff Meyers every day and wherever you go. As an all-round advertiser no better man could have been selected for the position of President of the State Commission of the Lewis and Clark Fair. Being an attractive looking man at home, it follows that, while traveling east, strangers would naturally inquire about him, and the very inquiry would indirectly advertise the Lewis and Clark Fair.

But this didn't satisfy Jeff while traveling in the interest of Oregon's big show. The success of the great institution over which he is presiding will depend upon gate receipts and these must come from visitors brought hither by attractive advertising. Being detained in Philadelphia in January for a day, and with time dragging in that sleepy old town, he conceived, with true western up-to-date-ness, that it would be a good time to notify the general public that Oregon is on the map, with a popular Exposition to be exploited in the near future.

The ground was covered with snow and sleighs were running in every direction, so Jeff secured the largest sleigh obtainable and adorned both sides with a canvas sign with huge letters advising everybody to "Come to Oregon in 1905—Lewis and Clark Exposition." Hiring an automobile as a propelling power Jeff mounted the sleigh and for an hour paraded the principal streets of the City of Brotherly Love in a manner that not only advertised the Fair but came near landing him in the asylum for defective youth. He effected his escape by taking a back street for a train just ready to start, much as he eluded his irate constituents from the Forks of the Santiam in 1893 in Salem, but regards his bold stroke as good seed sown in an otherwise unfavorable locality, which will undoubtedly blossom among the gate receipts in Portland in 1905.

"REVELATIONS" WHILE YOU WAIT.

At least one advantage in being a Mormon is the ease with which he can receive a "revelation" approving or commanding some thing that would otherwise appear a trifle awkward in the doing. If he desire to do something that might meet with the opposition of those who are accustomed to the established order of things comes bubbling up in the palpitating Mormon bosom, he at once applies for and receives a

tal Examiners, even if it is necessary to go outside of the requirements of the law to get it, but heaven save us from a purely Democratic State Fair. The new members are all right, if we must have new members, but men of experience, who have made exceptionally good records, should be retained wherever possible.

Public announcement is made that the biggest carving knife ever manufactured will be on exhibition at St. Louis this year at the World's Fair. "The blade will be thirty feet long, the edge as sharp as a razor, made of the best of steel, and the handle a masterpiece of the cutler's art, highly polished and elaborately carved." It will be of exclusive American make and will cost several thousand dollars. Special machinery had to be made with which

Editorial Sidelights and Observations on Various People and Things, Picked Up and Scribbled Down at Odd Times.

revelation freighted with the divine assurance that the thing is absolutely proper, accompanied by the hint that surprise is due that he had not thought of it before!

If a law is passed by the United States Congress prohibiting, say, polygamy, a little pastime of the Mormons by the use of which they have been accustomed to vary the monotony of life in these low grounds of sorrow, a revelation is at once received directing them to observe the new law—if there appears any danger of being caught by the prowling and officious officers; otherwise, the revelation will bear the construction of an authority to proceed with the polygamous relations as a privilege coming from God!

If a Mormon is suddenly seized with an inordinate desire to do a certain thing which his better judgment assures him is contrary to the law of the land, he sits him down in a prayerful mood and within a short time as he desires, sees a vision, accompanied by a revelation clothed with the express privilege of doing that very thing. And, once backed by a "revelation," he immediately proceeds to proceed.

Here is William H. Roberts, the Mormon who was expelled from congress not long since for being a polygamist, declaring that in the Smoot investigating case he "sees the finger of God in taking this means of putting the truth of Mormonism before the world." Of course this vision, in which he saw the Lord's finger, came to him in the form of a "revelation." Concluding, no doubt, that such a revelation would strengthen the Mormon cause, if he could get it, he sat down, applied for it, and, as in such cases made and provided according to the Mormon requirement, the divine disclosure was immediately available, f. o. b.

These revelations have made sad havoc with the Edmunds law. A well-regulated Mormon revelation will go much further toward turning an act of Congress hind side afore, and will accomplish this process of legislative evasiveness much more neatly than a deliberate opinion by the learned judges of the United States Supreme Court. The advantage on the part of the revelation is that feature of directness which evades all pleas of demurrer or writs of mandamus, and proceeds more nearly along the lines of a writ of habeas corpus. A necessary revelation is never side-tracked on the calendar nor remanded for a rehearing. A Mormon revelation always gets there with both feet and precisely on time. Its right of way is always guaranteed.

Nothing could be imagined that would take its place as an engine of absolute convenience in times of trouble. Who knows but that the principal officials in some of our cities whose charters and ordinances strictly prohibit gambling, for instance, have received a revelation that the charter is a defenseless outrage on the rights of the people who want to gamble and that the ordinances passed in accordance therewith are "revolutionary, unconstitutional and void?"

DESECRATING VALUABLE SOUVENIRS.

There is a well founded opposition in the minds of many people to the custom of carting around over the country houses made valuable by reason of being the birth place of noted men, and for the purpose of exhibiting them at various exhibitions. A few years ago the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born was taken to New York City to be exhibited at some fair and after that object was accomplished it was stacked away in some out-of-the-way place and was discovered there not long since.

In October, 1899, the editor of this paper was in Harper's Ferry, Virginia, where the famous John Brown fort was erected and where the tragedy was enacted which really initiated the great Civil War. A small monument of marble, perhaps six feet high, is erected on the precise spot where the

to manufacture it. The Statesman can figure out no possible object in such an utterly useless piece of mechanism unless Mr. Bryan has devised it for his special use during the progress of the St. Louis convention to be used in connection with his daily Commoner. For purposes which can be imagined it will be none too large, as the work will have to be done, in certain contingencies, with lightning dexterity in the interest of the brow of labor as it instinctively shrinks from the crown of thorns, always hovering around at such times like a devouring octopus—possibly this time in the distracting form of the Sage of Princeton.

With commendable pride and patriotism the F. X. Matthew Cabin of Native Sons, of Battleville, will take the initiative in the celebration of the

fort stood, thirty feet only from the railroad track, but the fort itself was taken to Chicago in 1893 and no man knows what has become of it.

The celebrated Southern prison pen, Libby Prison, was similarly taken to Chicago and lost. This entering to public curiosity should not be further encouraged by removing these relics of association with our great men, some of them pleasant and some otherwise, from the original location which of itself, gives them much of their real value and significance. One year ago the writer of this article, being in St. Louis over Sunday, took a motor line for the suburb where the log cabin General Grant built when hauling cord wood into that city before the war, was standing, and after much inquiry and more difficulty, succeeded in finding it.

General Grant originally built this cabin on a piece of land given to him by his wife's father near "Old Orchard," but it was purchased a few years ago by some speculator and rebuilt at a point just outside the city limits of St. Louis. Here it is enclosed by a high board fence, similar to that around the State Fair grounds, and for ten cents the visitor is privileged to enter and critically examine the work of the hero of Appomattox, when he wrought with a broad axe and saw, instead of with cannon and shell.

The man who had removed the house to a point where the traveling public could more easily reach it, paid \$5000 for the naked cabin and after numbering each log and the brick in the two chimneys, removed it and rebuilt it precisely as it stood before. At the time of the visit mentioned, he had sold it to another speculator who intended within a few days to begin tearing it down for the purpose of taking it to St. Louis to be exhibited there at the Exposition this year.

While this no doubt contributes to the satisfaction of thousands who would otherwise never have the pleasure of seeing such valuable historical souvenirs, yet the fact that they are removed from the spot where associations which were dear to the great personages whose names give them their sole value, diminishes that reverence which would otherwise inspire the interested beholder. The worst feature of these removals for speculative purposes is the danger, and almost certainty, of their eventual loss altogether. Of what special value is the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born, standing among the sky scrapers of New York City—far removed from the pine ridges and bubbling springs of Central Kentucky? Or the famous log house made by General Grant during the days he was on the verge of starvation from sheer poverty, on the Old Orchard road, standing in its unpretentious and misfit surroundings amid the gorgeousness of the Exposition building.

After all the greed of a few speculators has been satisfied these reminders of the struggles of many of our great men will be lost altogether and the next generation will be deprived of them wholly. Whatever of sentiment is behind the desire of the general public to see these historic landmarks is commendable, but the speculative spirit which reaps a harvest from the exhibitions and casts the object of them aside when the money making feature is gone, is reprehensible in the extreme.

Speaking of these examples of men who rustle for money, an exchange recalls the fact that an enterprising Yankee once offered to buy the home of Shakespeare at Stratford, for the purpose of removing it to America as a money-making scheme. The indignation of the English people was general and outspoken, as might have been expected.

The coffins containing the remains of Washington and his wife are resting in the tomb at Mt. Vernon, where visitors can stand within five feet of them and view them at leisure through the huge iron gate. No doubt it was fortunate that the key to the great padlock which secures this gate was thrown in the near-by Potomac river when the bodies were placed within their final receptacle, else some enterprising schemer would propose to take them to St. Louis for exhibition purposes! We are a great people.

sixty-first anniversary of the Champoux meeting of the Oregon Pioneers on the 24 of May next. Extended preparations will be made for an interesting time and arrangements will be effected with the river transportation companies for a convenient schedule from Salem and Portland and return. This important event should be enthusiastically celebrated each recurring year by the people of Oregon in recognition of that far reaching historic event, and is certain to grow in popularity as a holiday inviting the co-operation of all our people.

With its accustomed ambiguity, the weather report says "occasional rains," the objection being that these rains, or this weather, does not consist of occasional rains. It is just one continuous rain.