

Oregon was the original home of the Nez Percés. The tribe welcomed and succored Lewis and Clark on their wonderful expedition to the Pacific in 1804. It was the Nez Percés who sent a delegation east and asked that the "book" might be sent them, that they might learn the white man's religion. Within a period of almost 70 years there is but one case on record where a Nez Percé shed the blood of a white man.

Then the white settlers began to take the lands of the Nez Percés, and then there followed an Indian war, in which the methods of the Indian were pitted against the skill and discipline of the United States troops. Chief Joseph and his band of a few hundred followers gave Gen. Miles one of the hardest campaigns he ever undertook. The end was the usual one, and finally the chief and all that was left of his tribe became wards of the nation.—Chicago Record-Herald of September 23.

THE FIRST CASE OF "RECALL."

HOW IT HAPPENED.

News dispatch from Los Angeles, Cal., to the Chicago Examiner of Sept. 17, under date of the 17th.

For the first time in the history of republican government the impeachment of an unfaithful public servant has been sustained at the polls.

Growing out of the action of a cabal in the city council of this city, known as the "Big Six," in awarding the contract for the city's printing to the Los Angeles Times at \$15,000 a year in excess of the highest bid of its competitors, and the ratification of this action over the veto of Mayor M. P. Snyder, has been invoked that provision of the city charter which provides for the Recall and retirement to private life of officials guilty of unfaithful service.

Immediately on the passage of the bill awarding the printing contract to the Times, the Good Government League began agitation for the Recall of the six aldermen who constituted a majority of the council, and whose acts in the matter of granting franchises, etc., had been unsatisfactory for months. Councilman J. P. Davenport, of the Sixth ward—the workingman's ward and the worst sufferer at the hands of the "Big Six"—was selected as the first to be Recalled.

Following the provisions of the charter, a petition was started, the minimum number of signatures of which must be 25 per cent. of the voters of the ward. Within two weeks it bore 1,300 signatures out of 2,864 votes cast at the previous election.

This petition was presented to the

city clerk for the certification of the names it bore. It was checked against the city directory by that official, and was thrown out for the reason that many of the addresses placed opposite the names did not tally with the directory.

Another petition was started. Other charges were added and the second document received more signatures than the first.

The fight thereafter was a hot one, Councilman Davenport invoking the aid of the saloon element to secure his reelection. The election was held yesterday, and resulted in the ratification of the Recall, Davenport being defeated by a vote of two to one.

A NEW WRINKLE IN CITY GOVERNMENT.

From the Denver (Colo.) News.

The charter of the city of Los Angeles provides for the "recall" of officials believed to have proven themselves unworthy of the trust bestowed upon them.

Six of the city aldermen have been carrying matters with a high hand, granting franchises that were unwarranted, and awarding the printing contract to a paper whose bid was \$13,000 higher than the next lowest office.

The Good Government League selected a member—one of the six—from one ward by the machinery of the new recall. The petition for a recall and a new election had to contain 25 per cent. of the voters of the ward.

Half the number which voted at the preceding election was soon obtained, but the city clerk refused to accept the names of such as had moved since the directory was issued. A second petition the unwilling official was obliged to accept. The election was ordered. An effort to secure an injunction failed, and the matter came to a vote.

The alderman attacked was defeated by a vote of two to one, in spite of the active efforts of the elements in whose interests his malfeasance had been carried on.

Doubtless the remaining five aldermen will now be proceeded against, and, if equally successful, Los Angeles will begin to believe that there is, after all, such a thing as popular rule.

The first charter drafted for greater Denver, which was defeated by the corporation interests which are undertaking now to run both city and state, contained a provision for the "recall" or removal of officials deemed unworthy by the people. On petition of 30 per cent. of the vote cast at the last election the holder of any office was required to go before the people for approval or disapproval of his course. The charter, of course, was defeated, because if

there is any one thing that corporation bosses don't want it is that the people shall be able to remove unfaithful public officers. The people of Los Angeles are fortunate in possessing the power.

THE CHICAGO CIVIL SERVICE LEAGUE.

For The Public.

Many of Chicago's good citizens, who really and truly believe that they are Civil Service supporters, know so little of the actual conditions of employment by the municipality that they are actually a hindrance and detriment to the proper enforcement of the Civil Service Law. They say with loud voices that a Civil Service law is a good thing when properly enforced, and they believe in it, and would like to see it enforced, but that City employes are grafters and crooked, and what can they do?

If they happen to want favors in the way of a little patronage for friends or relatives, they don't hesitate to look for it, always crying out for an exception in their particular case, and the strict enforcement of the Law against all others. But this is human nature and must be expected in all reforms, so it must be met by the real friends and supporters of the Law, and provision made to educate and lead those would-be friends of the Law into paths of righteousness, where they may be of some actual use. As a means to this end a short history of the Chicago Civil Service League may be of some value at this time.

Along about the end of 1900 two distinct and separate groups of Civil Service employes became actuated with the belief that something must be done by the employes themselves to combat the political influences that were continually working against them. By a very fortunate and singular coincidence they both came in contact with Mr. Western Starr, the well known attorney, who even then had begun to be known as a political fighter for the Law. Through the good offices of Mr. Starr the two groups met, and as their aims and ideas were the same, it did not take long to perfect an organization, which was done with an initial membership of about 15 or 18, in January, 1901.

All persons believing in the Civil Service Law were made eligible to membership, and the object to be attained was "The strict enforcement of the Civil Service Law," as applied to Chicago. The subject was looked at this way: The theoretical reformers had obtained the passage of the Law;