

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;

the people had voted on the subject, and by a 50,000 majority had elected to put the Law into effect. Reluctantly and with many evasions, and even downright violations, the Mayor and his Cabinet were making a mere pretense of enforcing the Law, while the "practical" politicians, the "ward heelers," "handy men," "bosses," et al., were cursing it with bitter, burning words, and scheming with devilish ingenuity to put it out of business. The Law was in dire danger of becoming worse than a failure; it was up to somebody to come to its support. If the actual bona fide Civil Service employes, those who were being benefited under the Law, did not support it, who would?

Under such circumstances the League was born. It was regarded over in the City Hall as an Ishmaelite, a renegade, a thing to be avoided and denounced. But there were a few brave souls among those few pioneers who thrived on war. The breath of battle was sweet to their nostrils, and knowing that they were in the right, they sought the enemy in his own camp, and carried the fighting to him. What an ally they had in Mr. Starr! He haunted the Civil Service Commissioners' office, he hauled them over the coals and roasted them to a turn one day; then helped them out of some difficulty the next. So it went on from day to day; cases were taken to the Grand Jury; indictments were obtained; after awhile trials came off, and, wonderful to relate, convictions were obtained and punishments meted out for the violation of the Civil Service Law. Members of the League began to have more confidence in themselves and the Law. Little by little they began to talk about the League to their friends and fellow workmen. The Law began to be enforced more strictly; examinations were actually "on the square." Members of the League managed to take about all the examinations that were held. They wanted to be on the ground and see for themselves how things were done. It might be handy for evidence sometime.

As time went on the League began to grow. Employes of one department talked about it to those of another. By and by people began to ask for application blanks. They did not have to be urged to come in; they no longer regarded the Chicago Civil Service League as a joke. It was a grim reality, and they made haste to seek admittance. Some of them did not get in. The leaders in the League, right from the start, took a strong position in regard to new members. The only requirement of appli-

cants is that "they believe in the Civil Service Law." But as actions sometimes speak louder than words, a man's history and his previous attitude toward the Law is taken into account, and while there may be conversions from the heathen state of a politician to the more Christian condition of a Civil Service man, still an applicant to the League who is known to have been at some previous time a spoilsman, is scrutinized very carefully, and, as a considerable number know by experience, a pretense of belief in the Law is not sufficient to open the doors to them.

And so the League has grown and expanded till at the present time more than 300 earnest, active supporters of Civil Service principles are enrolled as its members. Nearly every department of the City Service is represented, and now applicants are continually seeking admittance. Probably, in all the history of organizations in any way connected with City affairs, this is the first one which has never looked or asked for favors of any kind. Its members know that having complied with the requirements of the Law they have rights under the Law, and those rights are all they ask. But they do ask for them with a mighty loud and insistent voice, and they are going to keep right on asking, and woe be to the politician who thinks he is big enough to say them nay. He will wish he hadn't. That's all.

In conclusion: The Chicago Civil Service League knows no creed, no party, no nationality, no sex, no color. It has one object—"the enforcement of the Civil Service Law in Chicago." It is no reform organization. It is a practical business proposition, designed to prevent lawlessness and discourage law-breakers. It asks no favors, but it would be pleased to have the respect and confidence of all good citizens; and having gained these, it promises to so safeguard and protect the Civil Service Law of Chicago, that in time to come this City may be pointed to as the best governed City of this great Country of ours.

PHILIP STEELE,
Of the Board of Directors.

THE MEASURE OF SUCCESS.

Portions of an address delivered in Cincinnati, Ohio, Sept. 25, 1904, by Herbert S. Bigelow, pastor of the Vine St. Congregational Church.

What is our philosophy of life? What do we strive for? What is our measure of success? What star guides us? What goal urges us on? This question of aims and motives is pre-eminently the theme of religion. If the church has any message to the world, it relates to this question: What

aims and ambitions are worthy of a man, and what should be his measure of success?

In the woods this summer I noticed an oak sapling that had sprung up beneath a group of trees, the shade of which was so dense that the sapling sought to escape from it. Instead of growing erect, it had stooped and passed under the darksome branches and made a break for light and liberty. So eager was it to get to the sunshine that it had inclined to an angle of 45 degrees, and in that attitude of supplication it seemed to pray for its share of life and light.

As saplings thirst for the light, so man craves happiness; and the course of each is swayed by what his nature demands. Man, like the tree, strains and struggles to arrive somewhere; but, unlike the tree, he can stop and inquire if that for which he strives is worth while, and if he chooses, he can change his course and go in search of some other and higher good. His desires are capable of education, and this is because he is gifted, as trees are not, with the faculty of taking himself in hand, of thinking about the question of his destiny, and to some extent shaping it to his taste.

A man may be unlearned. The word "philosophy" or "ethics" may not be in his vocabulary. Yet he lives, and the manner of his life shows his philosophy. What he thinks, that is what he is. The man who uses the spade as well as he who wields the pen has each his scheme of life and his course is molded by it. What is our scheme of life? Is it the best? Is it developing, or deforming us? Are we growing erect, with our face to the stars, or are we bent and crippled with gazing on the ground?

A man's philosophy will always be influenced by his environment. But there is still a margin of responsibility left to his soul. That margin is the dynamic of human progress.

In the same environment and with the same chances, so far as we can see, one man will be sodden with beer and beastliness, while his brother, with ashen cheeks and hungry soul, will pore over a book in his miserable attic, while the desire for liberty rages like a fever within him, and the angels sing him songs of a world made free.

Take the world with a brave heart. Let the years of our life throb with high thought and true endeavor. Drink the full cup. Taste the whole of it. The toil and the play, the joy and the sorrow—these are but the materials with which we build for eter-